

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL • 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE • SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

## Social room demolition set for March

### Gym renovation forces seniors to move to egress

BY STEVE STRANG  
Staff Reporter

Demolition of the social room slated for March will force seniors to spend the last of their free time in the egress.

Shortly before school began, rumors that the lounge would soon be wrecked alarmed seniors. Many didn't know if the social room would be there when they arrived on the first day of class. According to Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh, the move is temporary.

"The project will be completed in early to mid-August," Rumbaugh said.

Gym renovations will make Shaker's athletic facilities comparable to those of LEL division rivals. Seating for basketball and volleyball games will increase from a few hundred to approximately 1,800.

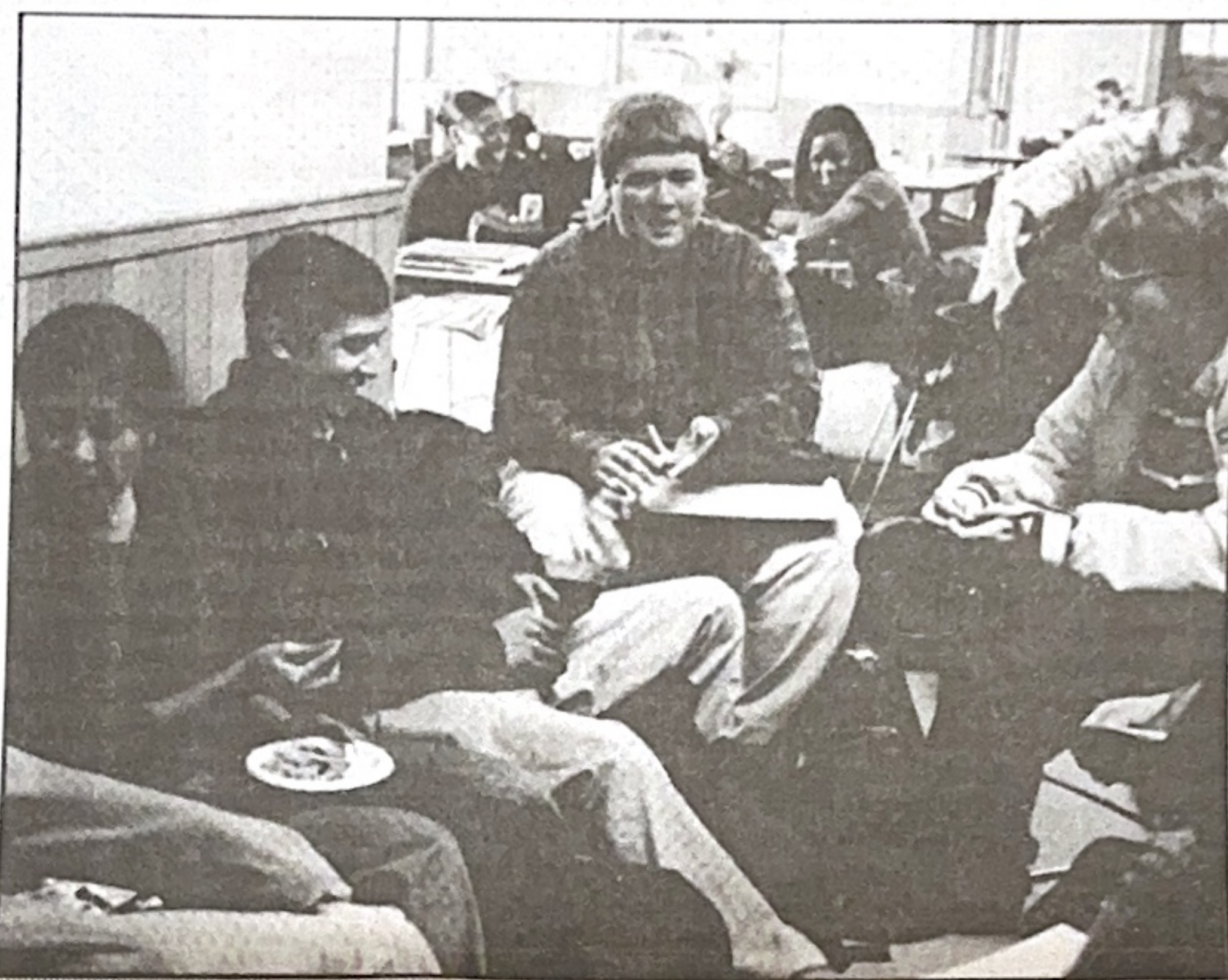
Beginning in March, the egress - a highly trafficked route between the science wing and the large auditorium - will serve as a place for seniors to go during their free periods. However, the social room perks are not likely to make the trip, according to Rumbaugh.

"I seriously doubt the candy machines and jukebox will be moved to the egress. There are classrooms nearby, and the walls are too thin. The noise would be very disruptive," Rumbaugh said.

Leaving behind the comforts of home does not appeal to many seniors.

"Losing the jukebox and the machines is kind of bad because the music was relaxing and you could just hang with your friends and listen to music after a long day's work," senior Fatrice Nicholson said. "Without the music, it'll just be a meeting place and not a lounge."

Seniors are also concerned about the pri-



THEY'RE MOVING ON. Seniors John Hogg, Clinton Karr and Chris Koler share a laugh in the soon to be closed social room.  
Shakerite photo by Sara Loney

vacy of the egress. The social room is located in the corner of the school building, where few underclassmen go. The egress, however, is used regularly by most of the student body. Before and after school as well as between classes, a steady stream of students walks by the area where seniors will be lounging.

"Underclassmen will still be able to walk through the upper part of the egress. It can't be closed off to students between classes," Rumbaugh said.

While few seniors seemed aware of the impending change, even fewer had anything good to say about it.

"They should just close off the egress so nobody can pass through. There is no reason the Coke machine can't be moved up with the lounge," senior Mike Englehart said.

To others, the expected benefits outweigh the loss of the social room.

"This new north gym means that there can be two events held at the school at one time. Before, only one gym had seating, but now the north and south gym can host two home games simultaneously," Rumbaugh said.

Senior Seth Chokel said the sacrifice would be worth it.

"I'm not happy about losing the social room, but if the school needs improvements, I'm willing to sit in the egress instead of the social room for two months," he said.

When renovations begin in March, more than the social room will be lost. A few faculty parking spots will be removed to make room for the gym. The loss is expected to be offset by the new front drive parking lot.

The gym renovations are scheduled to be completed in August. Consequently the class of '00 will start off next school year with a new senior lounge.

"I think it's kind of exciting," junior Joni Czyzak said. "We are the first class in a long time to get a brand new lounge. It will make our senior year even better."

The choir room is also included in the renovation. For the remainder of the school year, choir will be moved to the small auditorium. A new choir room will be ready next year.

"The new social room will be the lobby of the gym. This way it serves a dual purpose. It is highly impractical to only use the lobby for home basketball games," Rumbaugh said.

## MAC scholars bring home the gold

### Minority achievement committee wins Ohio's BEST practices award

BY MIKE EMRICH  
Staff Reporter

The Minority Achievement Committee has earned a BEST Practices award from The Ohio State University in recognition of its promotion of academic excellence.

Mary Lynne McGovern, Hubert McIntyre, Baird Wiehe and Superintendent Mark Freeman traveled to the Merston Auditorium at The Ohio State University Sept. 17 to attend Ohio's Building Excellent Schools for Today and the 21st century BEST Practices award gala.

"It's a big thing. We are making a difference," senior MAC scholar Landon Lockhart said. "It sets a milestone for the MAC scholars. It lets us be recognized and appreciated."

Of 294 programs nominated for the award, 38 earned Ohio BEST Programs recognition.

Award-winning programs received a certificate and a hand-sculpted trophy. The sculpture is now displayed in the main office, but in the near future a pedestal will display the sculpture as well as the certificate.

According to the nomination form, "The program is required to demonstrate how it has contributed to the achievement of one or more of the four cornerstones." The

cornerstones are higher academic standards, world class teachers, communities invested in education and infrastructure for the 21st century.

Shaker's MAC program will soon help neighboring communities as well.

According to McGovern, \$6,000 in grants will be used to set up similar MAC programs in other communities. Cleveland Heights, Shaw and Bedford are among the schools following the MAC example.

According to McGovern, this award shows the excellence in Shaker schools.

"I acknowledge the fact that there is a long way to go to reach a balance between black and white achievement, but this is a way to celebrate the achievement done by these students in

the MAC Program," McGovern said.

The MAC pledge is designed to help remind African-American students of the commitment to excellence: "I am an African American and I pledge to uphold the name and

the image of the African-American man. I will do so by striving for academic excellence, conducting myself with dignity and by treating others with dignity as if they were my brother or sister."

"To me this pledge is more than just words," Lockhart said. "It is a way of life. MAC has taught me not only to be a leader but to be a

follower. Not everybody can lead at the same time, especially with so many leaders. Therefore I learned how to be a follower, too."



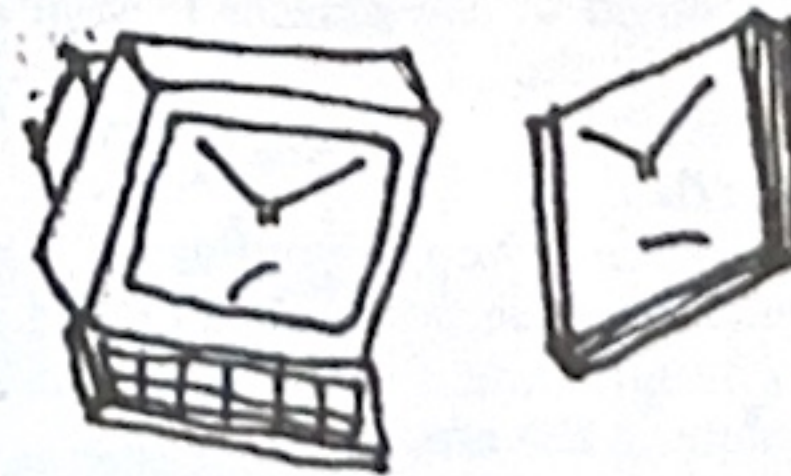
SCHOLARLY WORKS. This sculpture was awarded to the MAC Scholars for promoting achievement.  
Shakerite photo by Becca Wujek



Shakerite artwork by Dan Moody

Don't Stereotype me!  
Hear other schools speak out  
in Centerpiece about Shaker  
stereotypes.

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Shakerite artwork by Dan Moody

Art vs. Technology  
Opinion Co-Editors battle to  
prove who is superior,  
da Vinci or Bill Gates.

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The American Kid Corporation and Boy Scouts of America are offering a workshop titled "Exploring Job Interviewing" to students ages 14-20. The workshop will cover introductions, dining etiquette, body language, appearance and what to take to an interview. It runs on Mondays from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. and includes dinner. The cost is \$24. To register, call (216) 861-6060. The programs are offered at the following locations:

November 16, 1998, The Olive Garden in Beachwood  
January 25, 1999, The Spaghetti Warehouse in the Flats  
March 1, 1999, The Spaghetti Warehouse in the Flats

January 11, 1999, The Olive Garden in Middleburg  
February 8, 1999, The Panorama in Westlake  
March 29, 1999, The Olive Garden in Beachwood

## Bill mandates credit increase Shaker considers raising social studies requirements

BY RACHEL KIBBE  
Staff Reporter

In response to Senate Bill 55, Shaker may increase social studies requirements.

The bill requires that all Ohio students must have 20, instead of 18, credits to graduate.

As a district, Shaker tries to stay ahead of the state minimum by at least one or two credits. The bill also mandates that students have four social studies credits.

According to Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh, Shaker has always had a 20-credit minimum to graduate but only three required credits of social studies. It is projected that in the year 2000 the new social studies requirements will go into effect.

Economics teacher Diana Jones feels that the new requirement will be beneficial in numerous ways. She says it will increase the number of students taking the economics course and help people pass the ninth-grade proficiency test.

"I obviously feel that a knowledge of economics is important to function as a citizen as well as make individual decisions," Jones said.

Social studies Department Head Timothy Mitchell agrees that the required class would greatly benefit students, acknowledging that one sixth of the proficiency test concerns economics.

Rumbaugh wants to integrate economics into the required social studies curriculum by teaching non-western history and economics as part of the same curriculum. Some students, however, find that idea unfair.

"Just teaching a very short section of economics is not going to do the subject justice. They may as well leave it as an entire class that students can take electively," freshman Mike

Koch said.

"Making economics mandatory is a good idea because it has a lot to do with jobs [students] will have in the future," freshman Jenny Bresler said.

Adding a new social studies credit means that a credit will have to be deleted from some other requirement. Rumbaugh is determined that both the arts and electives areas will not suffer from this deletion.

"Being a liberal arts major, I am absolutely committed that we not do anything here that decreases the arts," Rumbaugh said.

The area that will lose the credit(s) will most likely be physical education. As of now, five credits of PE are required to graduate. Rumbaugh is considering dropping this number to three. However, the PE department doesn't feel the school will be able to accommodate more credits in a schedule.

"I don't want a reduction of any kind," physical education Department Head Linda Betley said. "A seven period day won't accommodate that kind of schedule."

Mitchell said that this won't have to happen. Instead, he feels that more electives will be developed.

An Advanced Placement World History course may be offered in the future. In addition, the African-American History course may be expanded to two semesters instead of one, providing a more in-depth approach. The department is also considering moving college prep U.S. History to 10th grade.

"A lot of ideas are up in the air," Mitchell said. Credit requirements and classes will remain unchanged until a final decision is made. No students currently enrolled at the high school will be affected by any changes.

Credit	Demands
Old	Potential
• 3 social studies credits	• 4 social studies credits
• 18 credits required in state	• 20 credits required in state
• 20 credits required at Shaker	• 23 credits required at Shaker

## A WOMAN'S TALE OF ABUSE



**TELLING HER STORY.** Kate Landis talks with senior Gabrielle Espay in the small auditorium Oct. 23 after a women-only assembly titled "The Silent Epidemic - Teenage Dating Abuse." Landis, a senior at Middlebury College in Vermont, is Co-chair of Take Back The Night Week and a member of the president's Human Relations Committee. She speaks nationwide about her experience in an abusive dating relationship during high school. Landis described traits of abusive partners and urged students to stand by friends in similar situations. The assembly was sponsored by Women Helping Educate Women and the guidance department. Shakerite photo by Nikkie Majorzyk

## Absences for SGORR participants double to accommodate Woodbury schedule change

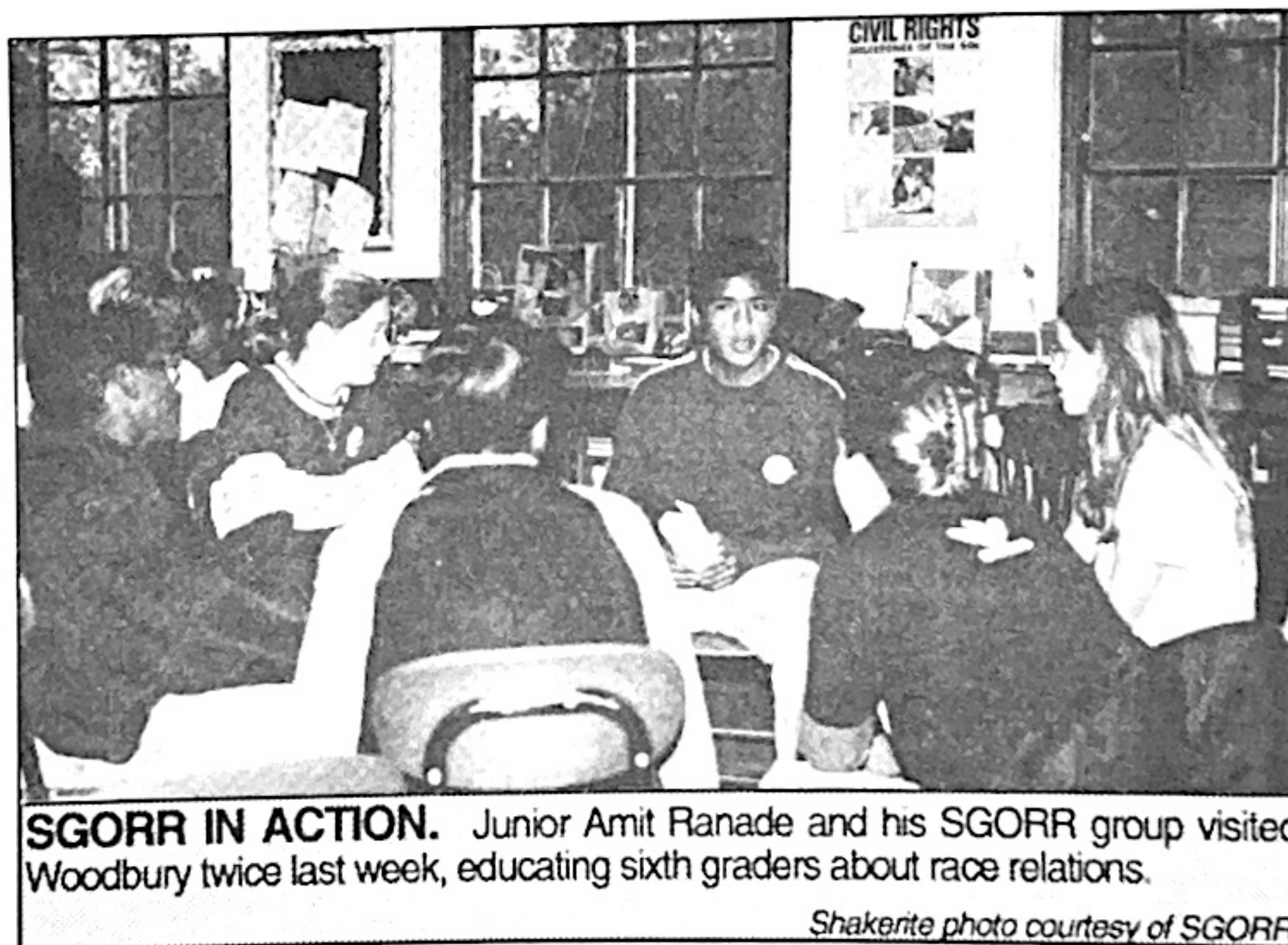
BY RACHEL HUTT  
Staff Reporter

The Student Group On Race Relations (SGORR) has changed its visitation schedule resulting in increased absences for some members.

Previously, SGORR worked with the 18 sixth-grade classrooms at Woodbury. Each classroom was assigned to a particular core leader and his/her group. The group would go to Woodbury three times a year for half a day.

The program has recently expanded to include the 20 fourth grade classrooms. In order to accommodate the expansion, eight of the 29 SGORR groups will visit two sixth grade classes each. Members will miss two days of school for each of the three visits to Woodbury. The change will double the students' absences from three to six days. However, the extra days will allow SGORR groups to visit just as many classrooms, enabling them to educate the same amount of kids.

"SGORR is an organization of high school students . . . that promotes good social relations among racially diverse children," according to the SGORR brochure. Students achieve this goal by working with fourth and sixth grade students in the Shaker school system. Together they do activities and discuss issues such as prejudice, stereotypes,



**SGORR IN ACTION.** Junior Amit Ranade and his SGORR group visited Woodbury twice last week, educating sixth graders about race relations. Shakerite photo courtesy of SGORR

discrimination and trust.

Marcia Jaffe, SGORR adviser, said the original plan called for groups that were assigned to two classes to visit one classroom in the morning and the other in the afternoon, keeping absences to only one day.

However, when Woodbury's lunch hour changed, the new schedule did not leave enough time for the full SGORR curriculum in the afternoon classes.

Jaffe doesn't feel that students missing more school will create much of a problem. SGORR has distributed a list to all the teachers outlining which students will miss which days of school. It clearly states that "students are required to inform [teachers] personally, and to complete necessary work before they leave, unless otherwise advised by [the teacher]."

"If the teachers are cooperative, stu-

dents will be OK," Jaffe said. However, she also said that students must do their part. "Teachers will go along with it as long as students get their work done and don't take advantage [of the absences]."

Sophomore Mark Lee is a core leader whose group is assigned to two classrooms.

"I think that it is worth the sacrifice because it's really important to catch the kids at a young age where they can still be influenced . . . homework and schoolwork can always be made up," he said.

Sophomore Alex Fuller said the absences are justifiable. He also is a core leader; however, his group is only assigned to one classroom. "I think that getting these ideas across to the fourth and sixth graders is more important than the couple of extra days of classes missed," he said.

Not all SGORR members agreed.

"It's a good experience but missing so much class will put them behind," sophomore Laura Englehart said.

However, other SGORR members said the new plan limits participation in the group. Fourteen core leader nominees were not chosen. Although having additional leaders would eliminate the need for six absences, Jaffe said such an increase would be difficult because the group would be too large.

"We'll try it this way and then make a decision," Jaffe said.



# Fire department, City Hall to be renovated

## Buildings don't meet space demands of equipment, city services

BY KAREN JENKS  
Staff Reporter

Because of space considerations, the Shaker Heights fire department and City Hall are discussing possible renovations with Shaker Heights City Council.

The fire department is petitioning the council for permission to either renovate or rebuild the current fire station. The present site, according to Fire Chief Allan Weber, does not meet the needs of the department anymore.

"Since the buildings are so old, we've outgrown the facilities," said Weber, who started his career at the Shaker Heights branch in 1968.

The city has hired an architectural company, Architectural Resources Corporation, to assess the present site of the fire department. The corporation reviewed the site and presented plans to the work session of the city council Oct. 13.

The ideal goal is to have one center location for all branches of the city services, according to Assistant Fire Chief Gary Grubanc. As it is now, citizens are required to drive all over the city to find all the locations of city services.

"It's inconvenient to the citizens," said Grubanc, who has worked in the Shaker Heights branch for 28 years.

If the plans go as hoped by the fire department, the citizens will have a central location for all of their needs in the city departments. Other offices and programs may be moved to the Lee Road location, which will create a unified city center, Grubanc said.

Plans for the future include moving the fire department out to make room for more city services, such as licensing stations and other functions. Another plan includes renovation of the fire department, so that half of the current fire station could be used to house city services.

There are no discussed plans in the near future for

renovations of City Hall.

If renovations are agreed upon, then the fire station will undergo approximately two years of total construction. This includes the time needed to assess the architectural blueprints and to furnish the interior.

If the council agrees that the fire department needs another new building at a different site, then the construction could last for three years or more.

Also, the problem of housing fire equipment, personnel and computers may arise if the renovations happen and the building undergoes construction.

The department would need a heated area to house the personnel 24 hours a day and would also need large areas to store the fire equipment.

"We also have a lot of computer material that could present a problem," Grubanc said.

These housing problems also lead to extra costs, which could affect the council's decision between renovation and rebuilding, according to Grubanc.

There is no projected time for the construction to begin.

Financially, the renovation may cost somewhere between \$1-3 million, Grubanc said. However, the numbers are not certain, as the council has not yet decided to agree to the proposal.

In brainstorm sessions with members of the fire department, several ideas were suggested, among them setting up tents until the winter sets in, or renting a large number of trailers to house the workers.



**BIG TRUCKS NEED BIG SPACE.** Due to a lack of space for fire equipment and various city services, plans to renovate the Lee Road Fire Department are being discussed.

Shakerite photo by Jonah Schein

"We don't see how the station could be used to house trucks [during renovation]," said Weber, who assumed the title of fire chief in May of 1998. The construction would likely block the big bay doors, which the fire trucks use daily.

The architects, headed by Gary Snyder, predict that the contractors will need at least nine months of good weather to complete the renovation project. However, there is also a lee time of at least one year needed to study the architectural blueprints.

"We may need up to as much as one year lee time prior to the construction to review all the plans," Grubanc said.

"However, these times are very iffy."

## Club strives to reduce achievement gap

BY JESSICA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

In an attempt to foster academic achievement among Shaker's elementary school students, three seniors have decided to take action.

Literally

Miriam Stone, Patti Bell and Tahlia Bolden have founded a mentoring group and named it Take Action.

"This mentoring program will be necessary because it helps with students who want to excel in the long run," Stone said.

High school students and teachers have noticed the achievement gap problems at Shaker and have wanted to start a program that attacks the problem early.

This program will involve a core group of students willing to meet and plan activities for elementary school children. Stone hopes the core group will be racially diverse and that working together will help students approach achievement issues in the high school as well.

"By dealing with the achievement gap issue for elementary students, hopefully the issue for high school students will be brought up and discussed," Stone said.

Students have conflicting views on the club.

"The idea of high school students helping elementary school kids will be fun and educational for both groups," senior Megan McGill said.

"I am sure that the high school students want to do

something for the kids, but I am also sure that high school students will introduce elementary kids to bad things," senior Matt Brakey said.

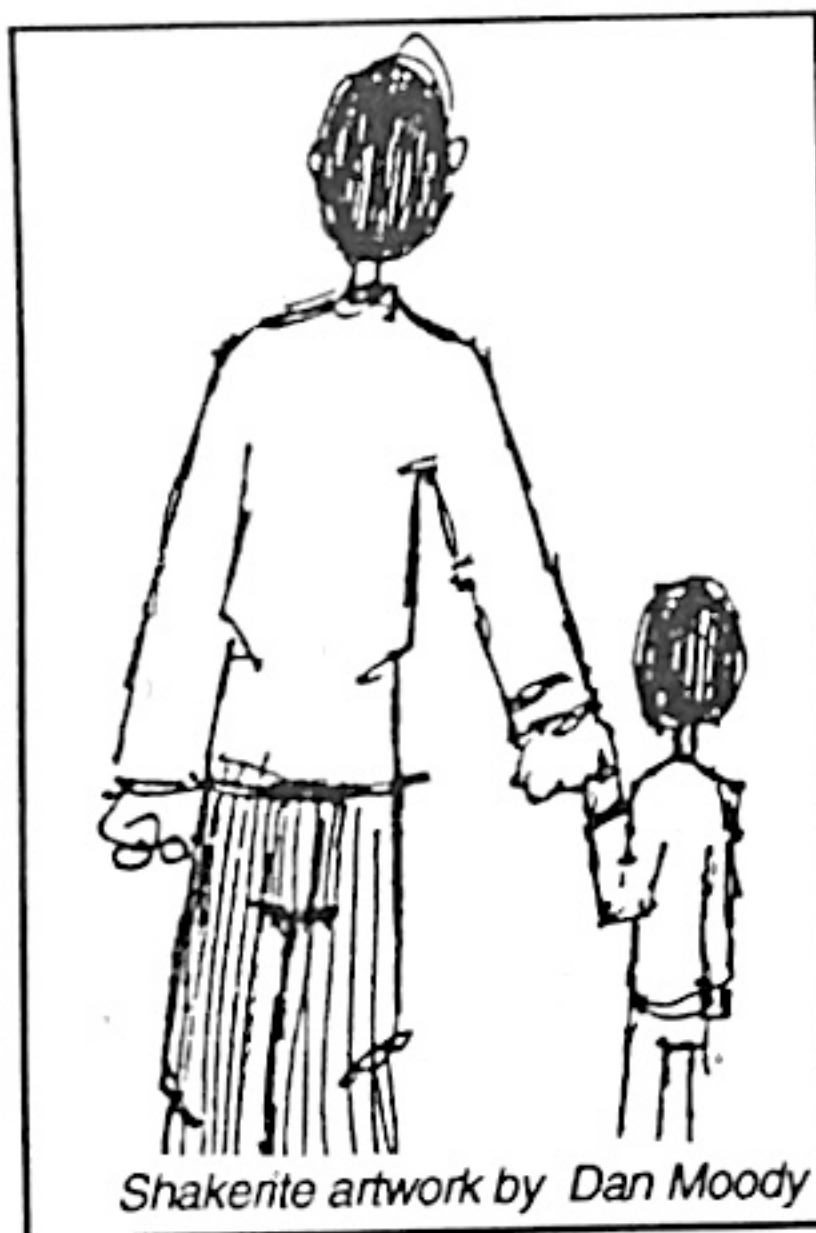
Sally Hagstrand, a social studies teacher, said Take Action is a good idea.

"This is a fabulous idea. It is a passion of mine. The mentoring program in my classes would turn into more than just mentoring. The high school students would accompany their students to basketball games and other forms of out-of-school activities. This is a great thing and it should definitely be done," Hagstrand said.

Elementary school teachers will be asked individually if they would like their students to participate in the mentoring activity. Mentors will begin their efforts with second grade students and will progress to later grades. The founders of the mentoring program are hoping for a big turnout when they begin the group. The number of high school students who come will determine how many elementary classrooms will be able to participate in the program.

The elementary schools closer to the high school, including Onaway and Fernway, will be the first schools asked to join.

"For now we have to keep our selection to the two schools, Onaway and Fernway. Later on we will hopefully be able to broaden the mentoring group's horizons," Stone said.



Shakerite artwork by Dan Moody

## Massachusetts school takes similar approach

This story came from Denebola High School in Newton, Massachusetts. Denebola has a club that is similar to Shaker's new program, Take Action.

Every November since 1972, the Newton school system One-to-One program has matched about 80 high school students with young children attending a Newton elementary or middle school. Each student is paired with a younger child, forming a mentoring system. The high school students are responsible for three hours a week with their little brother or sister.

The program is designed to help children who need guidance. Many children come from single-parent households or single-child families, have learning or behavioral problems, physical handicaps or just need a friend.

Newton High School junior Bethie Miller was quoted as saying, "It has been a really good experience for me. It was a bigger commitment than I expected, but I never thought that I could have such a big influence on my little sister's life."

The responsibility that big brothers and sisters assume helps them to organize their time, set priorities and to get ready for handling the demands that high school and college require. The One-to-One program provides memorable moments and important growth experiences for both the big brothers, sisters and children.

-compiled by Megan Kortmeyer

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# Shaker to benefit from delinquent property tax

BY HYO BAE  
Staff Reporter

The Shaker Heights City School District will receive \$1.5 million in December as a result of the sale of all delinquent property tax debt from Cuyahoga County.

The tax collection agency GLS Capital, Inc. of Atlanta won the closed bidding process that determined who would buy the delinquent property tax debt. GLS paid Cuyahoga County approximately \$18 million for the debt of 5,000 parcels of property and now GLS is in charge of collecting all property tax from delinquent taxpayers in the county.

The Board of Education plans to make good use of this financial opportunity.

"We plan to put the money in our building fund, which will enable us to expand and put in a new gymnasium at the high school," Superintendent Mark Freeman said.

Daniel Wilson, treasurer of the Shaker Heights City Schools, explains that the money received

from this one-time windfall in Shaker Heights will help make facilities better.

"The Shaker Heights Board of Education recognizes these are past-due payments and since this is a one-time expense, they are going to capital improvement funding," Wilson said.

Students can expect to see the long-awaited gym renovations sooner because of the newly acquired money.

Many school districts have welcomed the windfall. More than 65 percent of the approximately \$47 million Cuyahoga County received as a result of the new bill goes to school funding.

Each school district will receive money according to the extent of debt in their area. Some other local school districts, such as Cleveland Heights, will receive significant sums.

In Shaker Heights, approximately \$800,000 will be received directly from this sale and \$700,000 will be paid by property owners to avoid the tax collection agency.

Due to the enormous sum of unpaid property taxes in the county, Cuyahoga County treasurer James Rokakis passed a bill through the Ohio legislature that allows Ohio

county treasurers to sell delinquent tax debts to tax collection companies.

Rokakis feels that it is time delinquent taxpayers learned their lesson.

"Selling this property tax debt ensures that all people have to pay their taxes," Rokakis said.

After making the decision to sell the property tax debt, the county notified the debtors that their accounts would soon be in the hands of GLS.

Cuyahoga County Communications Director Gina Petredis, explains that with a tax collection agency now involved, delinquent taxpayers will end up receiving harsher penalties for failing to pay their debts.

"If property tax debtors do not pay their taxes now, the tax agency can foreclose their property and own it outright. Then they can turn around and sell it right away," Petredis said.

As a result of the notifications and fear of losing their property, debtors paid about \$20 million before the debts were sold to GLS. Others organized payment plans to pay back their debts gradually.

With this new piece of legislation, Rokakis plans to sell the property tax debt every year.

## Students given say in direction of school funds

BY JESSICA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

A team of Shaker Heights students is creating a philanthropy board that will help choose beneficiaries of Shaker's charitable efforts.

Dr. Jack Rumbaugh said that he would be the group's official adviser while they are getting started. Rumbaugh feels that it's important for every high school to have a group of students who decide what to do with the school's charity money.

"This idea is very good. Students who are donating should know everything that goes on," senior Laura Rose said.

The students decided that their first task would be to decide where the money raised during the United Way campaign at the high school should be allocated.

"Steering and channeling where our United Way money goes is where we should start," Rumbaugh said during the first meeting.

After the United Way drive is over, the philanthropy board will have to tackle another organization.

Possible ideas for target organizations include AIDS research, diabetes research, the Special Olympics and food shelters.

Current members of the board want to make it into a diverse group of students ranging in sex, race and grade level.

"It is important to include ninth and tenth grade students so that they can pull off the tasks later when upperclassmen leave," Rumbaugh said.

Students agree that this is a worthwhile cause.

"It is a privilege for me to be able to give back to the community which I have grown up in. It is a good idea for students to get involved in projects such as these," Carolyn Shook, a member of the philanthropy board, said.



Shakerite artwork by Jenny Heisler

## Zanna Feitler leads quiet campaign

BY MEGAN KORTEMEYER  
News Co-Editor

Lee Fisher. Robert Taft. Zanna Feitler?

While the first two names may sound familiar, it is unlikely that many people have heard of the last. But Zanna Feitler, who is also running for governor, is not your average candidate.

Feitler, a Shaker resident, is running without a party affiliation, although she has associated with the Natural Law Party for most of her career.

"I am part of the Natural Law Party, and they were unable to get on the ballot this year, as it is very tough to do. The Natural Law Party believes in an all-party government and that everybody, no matter the party, should help," Feitler said.

Because her party was unable to get on the ballot, Feitler had to make her bid for governor in a different way.

"I'm putting my name on the ballot without affiliation and am using my own funds, so there has been little publicity," she said.

So far Feitler has only raised \$4,000 while the other candidates have raised millions. But she is still optimistic.

Feitler says her campaign issues are

vital to Ohio's welfare.

"My top priorities that I would address if elected are education, health care and crime. My first action as governor would be to start a governor's advisory board, on which I would put Taft, Fisher and Mitchel [another gubernatorial candidate]. They all have a lot of expertise in their fields, and if we all were able to work together it would bring out the very best in Ohio's government," Feitler said.

One of her ideas has to do with changing Ohio's health-care system.

"What I want to do is start a program that prevents further problems from rising. At the moment we have no health-care program. We only have disease care, which does nothing to keep people healthy. It only treats sickness," Feitler said. "If we work on improving the way people live we can save Ohio millions of dollars."

As there has never been a female governor in Ohio before, Feitler knows she has an uphill battle to fight.

"I think it would be amazing if I was elected. I definitely feel that Ohioans are ready for a woman governor, though. I'm not sure if there is a double standard for women in politics, but I do feel there has been a tendency for women to try to find a consensus instead of compete," she said.

Feitler's past experiences have helped her to prepare for this gubernatorial campaign.

"I have been a teacher of a transcendental meditation program for 26 years, and I have been the chair of the Natural Law Party since 1995. I am also the mother of two sons," Feitler said.

According to her son Jacob, a junior at Shaker, Feitler family life would not change much if she were elected.

"My family would be staying here in Shaker, so I wouldn't have to leave everybody behind. Only my mother would move down to Columbus," Jacob said. "I also don't think it would be hard to give up my family's privacy. I don't care what people know about me."

Feitler's running mate is John Eastman, a 51-year-old environmental engineer from Yellow Springs.

Feitler hopes that her ideas reach people throughout Ohio.

"I want people to know that I will stand up for what they believe in and that I have a willingness to learn. We founded the Natural Law Party on the belief that nature's government governs perfectly. We want to elevate the human government to that standard."



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## Deeper Thoughts

By Justin and Anahid

If you don't have a good voice, you should sing a lot. Surrounding people will be offended and hit you in the throat. Then you won't be able to sing anymore.

## THE RITE IDEA

# Shaker bristles at labels but neglects its own stereotyping

Many schools disparage Shaker by making negative generalizations about our financial resources, appearance and scholastic ability. We're outraged by demoralizing comments hurled at Shaker during academic and sporting events held outside Raider grounds.

Some people mock us for being rich, preppy and snobby, while other rivals call us ghetto and use other racial and social class slurs to define us.

However, many seem to overlook the fact that we are guilty of the same crime.

In defiance, we revert to the same tactics, stereotyping other schools according to their financial resources, their choice of dress and scholastic aptitude. In response to being called ghetto, many speak of Cleveland Heights and Shaw as poor and stupid. In response to the comments from schools on the eastern border of Shaker, we say they are rich, snobby, arrogant or white trash. Shaker students seem to find their diversity as a reason to think of themselves as better than surrounding communities, thus putting ourselves in the position to insult those we feel fall short of our standards.

We even use the same derogatory language that

offends us to stereotype ourselves. How many times have we heard a student call another student's choice of words or dress ghetto or gay? We totally disregard the offensiveness of this language in favor of being considered a part of the crowd that does the labeling. Once it is our turn to be labeled, however, it is not so funny or acceptable.

The commitment to diversity within our community cannot be fulfilled until we begin to speak fairly and with sensitivity about people both inside and outside of our school and community.

It is not uncommon to go to a hockey game between Shaker and University School and hear Shaker students calling US Preppers faggot or homo, or to see such stereotypes — rooted in homophobia and the school's single-sex status — written on signs and displayed so every spectator can see them. It is also not out of the norm to hear the person you sit next to in English class call a Cleveland Heights Tiger ghetto.

The slurs can lead to much more than emotional and mental pain. They are also known to provoke fights, injuries and property damage.

At Shaker-Cleveland Heights football games,

spectators from the visiting team are forbidden to walk over to the home stands for the fear that insults exchanged will inevitably cause a fight.

In another example of rivalry and slurs causing problems, a 1996 volleyball game between Shaker and Warrensville was interrupted by a brawl that began over insults. After hockey games at Thornton Park, police officers dismiss students from each school at different times to avoid fights that have erupted after a few hours of insults were exchanged.

The updated harassment policy is supposed to create greater awareness of the impact of language and attitudes. Nowhere does the policy say we cannot take that awareness beyond the border of our city and into our attitudes about other communities.

Stereotyping people is just a way to make people who have low self-esteem feel better about themselves at the expense of others. We don't need to resort to the same tactics we gripe about.

Before we complain one more time about a stranger who calls us snobs or thugs, we should make certain we don't promote stereotypes that will lead others to label us hypocrites.

## CHEERS & JEERS

**Cheers to Halloween.** Give me some candy!  
**Jeers to mean people** who put razors in apples.

**Cheers to jack-o-lanterns.** Never stop glowing.  
**Jeers to little birds** who fly in your house and peck your eyeballs out.

**Cheers to those little green glowy sticks.**  
**Jeers to mushy candy corn.** How did it get like that?

**Cheers to wearing your costume to school.**  
**Jeers to the end of the grading period on Halloween.**

**Cheers to glow-in-the-dark skeletons.**  
**Jeers to everyone** who dresses up as "myself."

**Cheers to shaving cream fights.**  
**Jeers to egging.** It's hard to wash out that smell.

**Cheers to pumpkin seeds.**  
**Jeers to orange and black.** They are ugly colors and they clash.

**Cheers to trick candles.** Never stop burning.  
**Jeers to yellow snow.** Don't eat it.

**Cheers to witches.** Can we borrow your broom?

## THE RITE ARTIST

TRESPASSERS WILL BE  
HANDCUFFED TO A LOCKER



Shakerite artwork by Dan Moody

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- National Scholastic Press Association
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# SHAKERITE

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# Two roads diverge, can technology travel both?

## POINT

As we gear up for the millennium, the technology wave sweeping the country clearly illustrates what society values and what it considers a fringe benefit. Society values technology over the arts in every way.

Too many people trust the fate of the future to teaching students to rely on computers rather than nurturing creativity in school. In schools facing financial problems (and in Ohio, there are many), study of the arts is the first thing to go. This quick fix is not the wisest solution to educational challenges.

It makes more sense to send students on a field trip to an art museum or a ballet or a poetry slam than to supply each classroom with Internet access, but that's not how our government sees it. The president and state legislators contribute to the technology takeover by funding wiring of buildings for Net access and placing PCs in the corner of every classroom. Mass installation of technology in schools is quickly cementing a path that leads away from the arts and toward the knowledge of how to word process and spell check.

In school today, more and more emphasis is placed on learning math and sciences while much is forgotten about studying and perfecting the arts and humanities. During the Renaissance, a well-rounded individual personified all the qualities of a skilled athlete, musician, scholar, artist and historian. Why have the qualities that made up a well-rounded individual in the past been forgotten? Why have we let our standards fall?

As a society, if we don't consider the value of learning our history and our humanities as seriously as we value studying mathematics, then we will be fated to repeat our faults from the past. That is not at all progressive, and in this technological age, progress is one of our main concerns. Art is a valuable source of history. Everything that is creative can be linked to civilization, and creative people are the impetus for the progress of civilizations.

Furthermore, our great appreciation for technology isn't helping us any in the long run; it simply stalls our growth by numbing our innovative sides. Programming all the answers to the test on your calculator may seem like the best possible way to be successful on exams in this competitive world, but it is not. When you use the calculator as a substitute for studying, you don't learn the math and cannot benefit from the knowledge. Witness just one computer meltdown that leaves the user helpless, and you'll know the damage that relying on software and machines that have been engineered for mass use can do: people don't know how to fix the problems, learning ceases and the critical thinking necessary to solve such dilemmas is absent because pointing and clicking hasn't fostered it.

Computers have also diminished the art of letter writing. E-mail isn't as sincere as a hand-written letter, and the immediacy of "send now" detracts from the writing process. The Net may seem like a great way to keep in touch, but it's really a great way to lose touch with reality. People make friends on-line, but most of their relationships aren't real and are often based on pseudo-identities. Research shows that people who spend long hours on the Net grow increasingly withdrawn, isolated from society and depressed. Technology deprives people not only of happiness, but also human interactions fundamental to the most important aspect of education — learning about people.

Technology may be increasing communication (however sincere) and instantly graphing equations, but it does so at the expense of a comprehensive education. How much does technology enhance learning when it instead becomes the excuse for failure ("I don't have my essay because my computer won't print")?

We are too enthralled by technological advances that aren't making us happier and don't allow us to grow as individuals or as a society. Until politicians and the country as a whole realize the drawbacks of feeding our seemingly endless technological appetite, we will continue to suffer as arts remain on the back burner.

- Anahid Thompson

## COUNTERPOINT

The technology revolution is changing education for the better. Some say learning with the help of computers is a bad thing and it doesn't allow students to truly understand arts. The truth is, technology is helping students learn more about arts in more efficient ways.

Not everybody gets a chance to travel and experience different cultures throughout the world. Few people have time to go to art museums or natural history museums, read about Edgar Allan Poe or Jonathan Edwards. The classes and co-curriculars offered at Shaker put us in the minority among public schools in that regard.

Most school systems don't have the luxury of sending their students to art museums or even to Europe. Many Ohio high schools have only one art teacher, one music teacher and one theater teacher. Course offerings in the arts are limited at best.

Tax dollars that bring technology to the classroom don't replace such meager offerings. However, putting computers and Internet access in each classroom does help students learn about the arts. Studying aspects of the Net itself is an art form. It promotes problem solving and provides a more accessible source of information than traveling to the library.

If someone wants to truly inquire about history or about a famous philosopher, the Net allows it. It may not be the same as first-hand experience, but it is a tool that will allow more and more students to learn.

The appreciation for technology is growing, and this is not a bad thing. It forces people to study and learn about a revolution that makes certain aspects of life easier. Putting students on the information superhighway will engage them in learning and prepare them for a technological world.

What is this technological revolution truly improving? Communication and problem solving skills. Both are forms of art that have advanced dramatically since the Net hit its growth spurt.

With E-mail, the newest way of letter writing, people type all they want to say and send it instantly to any computer on earth. Gone are the days of writing letters to your friends, spilling all sorts of emotions, only to have them receive it days or weeks later when you finally take it to the post office. This electronic mail system encourages writing, an art every student needs to master.

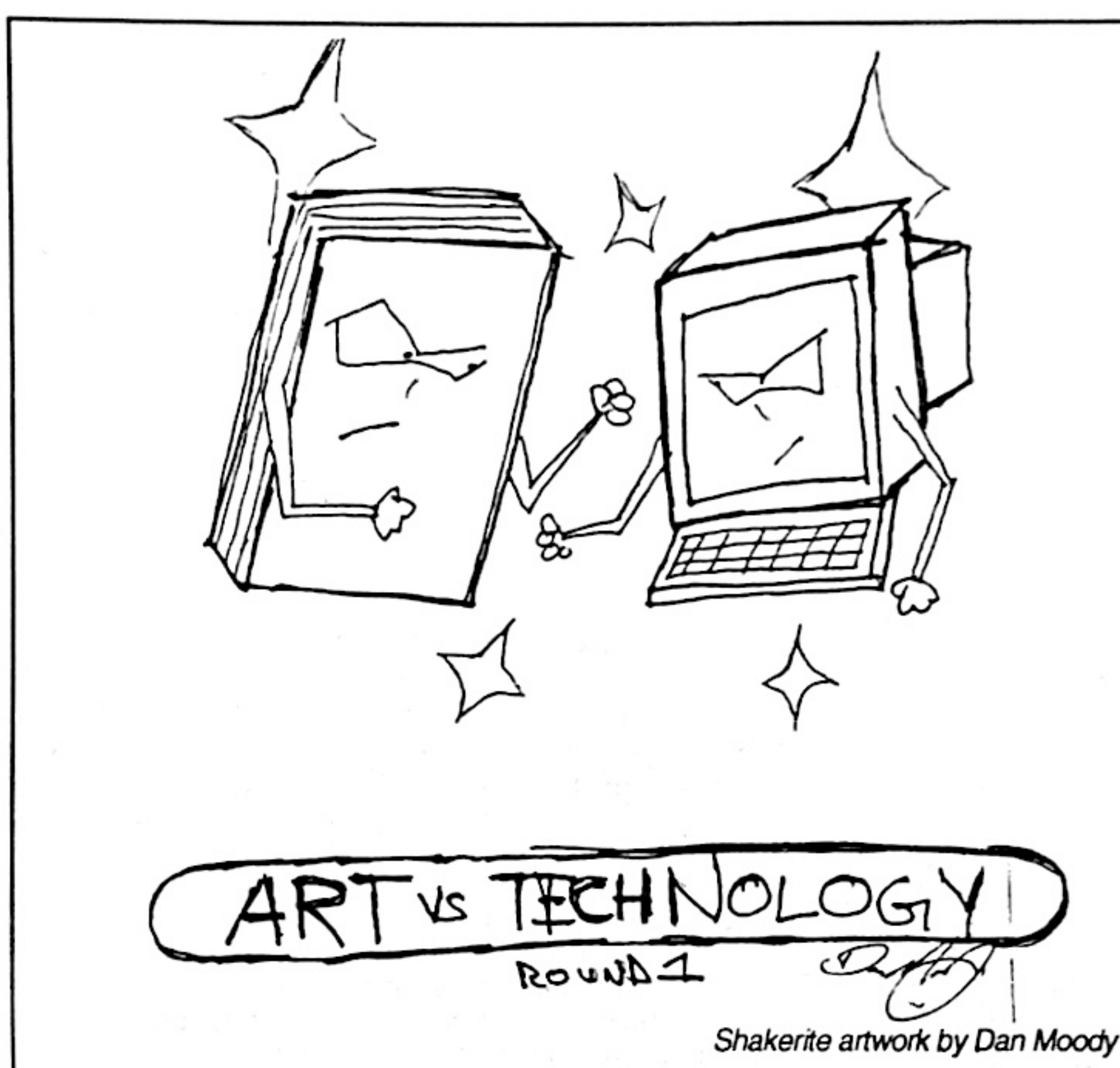
Also, the ability to hold conversations with people from cultures all over the world helps students learn about humanity. Although it may be thought of as a waste of time, tapping into a multicultural chat room and typing in foreign languages or just trying to understand how other countries' lifestyles differ is something that anyone can benefit from without regard to finances.

Along with enhancing communication skills, problem solving ability is drastically improved by spending only a few days trying to figure out what your computer or graphing calculator wants you to do. Spending time figuring these machines out isn't a waste; anything that makes your mind work is worth it.

Communication and problem-solving skills are only two of the many ways technology betters our lives. The *Shakerite*, for instance, would have a tough time producing the newspaper you read each month of the school year without the help of computers. Can anyone argue that because the paper is produced on computers that the art form of printing a newspaper has been lost? On the contrary, desktop publishing has empowered more people to learn the art of design and production.

Technology, when used correctly, creates learning opportunities for everybody, especially for people whose schools lack the funds to take the field trip, stock the library or hire the third art teacher.

- Justin Gurney



# Ken Starr published it, but you didn't have to read it

## Censorship not the right way to deal with the Starr report, judgment is

BY BETH DOLINSKY

Copy Editor

Many censorship advocates are angry about the release of Ken Starr's report on the president.

The release of the full report in newspapers, magazines and on the Internet has been a heated topic in the censorship debate. Although there is no question that most young children should not be exposed to the detailed accounts in the report, should the report have been printed at all?

Printing the Starr report in full or not at all were the only options. Censoring certain sections would only have created more of a sensation with the media and the public, adding further drama to the already sordid tale.

While most people would not want their children to read the juicy details of the report, censoring it would not have been a solution. Sure, retaining the report would have kept kids from reading details about the president's sexual encounters, but doing so would also have deprived American citizens of the opportunity to learn the facts. After months of media hype, the public demanded and deserved the facts, as distasteful as they might have been.

There simply was no way to build up the case against the president, delve into his private life and then keep the

findings from the public. Where does the publication leave those who did not want to read the report? They could simply choose not to. While the information is available, there is no requirement to read it. If people really did not want to read the report, they could have skipped over the special section of the *Plain Dealer* to something that concerned them more. They could have read something other than the tabloid headlines while waiting in a checkout line at the grocery store.

**"It's a shame that it takes a presidential scandal to get parents to honestly discuss important issues with their children"**

Simply because the material was written did not mean there was a need for everyone to read it. An opportunity to read the report was essential; reading it was optional.

The real debate should focus on how the media hyped up the issue. There was no need to devote almost all of the news for weeks on end to Bill Clinton and his personal life. The decision to print and to what extent to devote attention to the story was that of each publication or news source on its own. Unfortunately, there appeared to be lit-

tle variety in the all Starr, all the time reporting. Still, too much coverage is better than censorship. Of course, censoring the report would make the job of a concerned parent easier. While parents in the '50s knew exactly what their children might encounter during a typical day, parents today have to monitor their children more closely. Still, it is much better that parents monitor their own children rather than have a censor, a stranger, make choices for them.

No parents can say they weren't aware of the kind of material the Starr report covered. Parents who were concerned about the explicit details should have monitored their child and discussed the situation with them.

It's a shame that it takes a presidential scandal to get parents to honestly discuss important issues with their children. Honest discussions help develop strong relationships and self-esteem. Should we have allowed a censor to help us avoid the topic? It would have been an unfortunate missed opportunity.

The Starr report gave Americans the information they had been clamoring for. Had the public not gotten all of the facts, they would not have been able to make educated decisions. Censorship is not the answer; good decisions are. Reverting to censorship takes away a right guaranteed to each citizen by the First Amendment.



# FROM THE MIND OF GURU

BY JUSTIN GURNEY

Opinion Co-Editor

Good news, soap fans. You no longer have to wait for Wednesday night for *Beverly Hills 90210* or *Party of Five* to get your melodrama fix. Our lives contain more drama than a TV show ever could.

How many of you have been sold out before? Whether it's a friend broadcasting your deepest secrets to the entire school or someone stealing your boyfriend or girlfriend, it isn't a fun situation.



Shakerite photo by Sarah Rome

It happens to us all, both as the recipient and the culprit. The bottom line is, it doesn't feel good. What hurts the most is not the act of betrayal, but the person who is doing it - the person we call a friend.

It's not surprising that man's best friend is his dog; that friendly animal won't go work his tongue about his owner's secrets to the rest of the world. Isn't it a shame that the majority of the trustworthy mammals in our world have four paws and communicate through barking and licking?

Sometimes you have so many feelings built up inside they want to burst out. But you hold them in because you fear that someone who can't be trusted will find out. That's why we have friends, to share those secrets without fear of publicity. Many times, though, everyone seems to find out. Just ask Monica Lewinsky. Her best buddy, Linda Tripp, holds the title of biggest back-stabber.

So if you can't trust your most trustworthy friend, what's left? The worst feeling I know — loneliness. It hurts to be alone. You're stuck out on a limb, waiting for someone to pull you up. Just when you are about to reach for that hand, it lets you fall.

The definition of friendship among our peers seems to have evolved from "I got your back" to "Be careful. I might turn my back," since only the beginning of high school. Friends like these mimic the trashy sagas that pollute your living room every afternoon when you tune into *The Jerry Springer Show*.

Being alone is not an option anyone wants to choose. We all want someone to share our happiness with, to respect our feelings. Some of us have found those people, some haven't. If you have trustworthy friends, you truly are lucky. You have someone you can call family, someone who won't take information and use it to his advantage. Their feelings of friendship are unconditional, and you can tell them anything.

One of the deepest feelings you share with your friends is the details of whom you like as more than a friend. We are at the age when we begin to find people we relate to beyond the realm of platonic friendships, people we may even love. We all know the feeling — the person who makes your heart beat fast or your stomach fly up to your throat.

Love is a tough thing to find and it conjures all sorts of emotions. Unfortunately, with those feelings also comes the possibility of hurt. You wouldn't expect the catalyst of your heartbreak to be your best friend, would you? Well, in the world of *Springer* friendships, it's not out of the realm of possibilities.

Relationships are as fragile as balloons, and your trustworthy buddy keeps a pin handy at all times. You know he has the power to bust it, but you trust him not to. The worst feeling, the destruction of that trust, is a risk you just have to take.

There is no excuse for your significant other, someone who all but holds your heart in trust, to cheat on you. It's the fault of both of the people who are closest to you. Such betrayal leaves you hanging from that limb without anything to grab hold of for security.

Will forgiving help pull you up? Is it possible to forget that your trust has been stomped on? Your friends say they are sorry and act like it hurts them to not be your friend more than it hurts you. I see this as only an act.

Someone may be sorry, but if that person had a genuine heart, the cheating would have never happened. Crying for attention and pretending you are upset because you just stabbed your buddy in the back doesn't count in my book. If you knew it was wrong or you didn't mean it, why did you do it?

Do you believe it matters whether or not your president defines his promiscuous actions as intercourse? Whether you do or not, the fact is he cheated on his wife and now he says he is sorry. His cries of apology are just crocodile tears shed by a husband to his family and by a president to his country.

Scores of people are quick to say Hillary Clinton should not endure such betrayals, and neither should the nation. Yet we continue to surround ourselves with people who rely on "I'm sorry" after leading us to a litany of tearful nights.

Instead of relying on people whose hands are unreachable while you are dangling from the limb of friendship, why not find the people you can trust in times of need, the friends who won't let you fall in the first place?

## Intrascholastic integration evolves

### 1989 letter cited racial imbalance

Editors note: This is a "Letter to the Editor" printed in the November 21, 1989 *Shakerite*.

To the editor,

The group UNITY is formulated to bring racial harmony. I see no problem with that. But in a school where we have incidents of black on black crimes, there needs to be a group to promote black self-love and respect. When we have a group that is based on these things, we can then work on racial harmony. You cannot have white and black integration without black on black education.

The group I belong to was formed to strengthen the

concept of brotherhood between black males, but the administration banned it, deeming it as a gang. Every time Afro-American teenagers at Shaker form groups to uplift themselves, they are struck down and stereotyped to be negative. It's time for a change.

A second comment on integration: if the administration were so sincere about it, not only would they place quotas on groups such as the cheerleaders, but they would also integrate the *Shakerite* staff. The *Shakerite* directly influences the masses. In a school where blacks outnumber other ethnic groups, we should have more black writers. We, the blacks at this school are the majority with still no authority. (It will be a miracle if this gets printed).

- Larry Bradell, freshman

## Increased participation in diverse groups indicates change for better

BY JON HELLER

Staff Reporter

Larry Bradell, a freshman at SHHS in 1989, raised troubling issues for the school when he stated in his letter to the editor of the *Shakerite* that African Americans were "the majority with still no authority." His letter was written in order to point out the defects that he saw with the racial situation in the high school.

Shaker has come a long way since Bradell wrote his letter. African-American respect and unity has grown among students.

One of Bradell's complaints stems from the fact that there were not enough organizations that addressed the problem of African-American respect. Several school organizations have since been formed that now help us move toward the development of African-American culture and education. One example is the Minority Achievement Committee (MAC), which recently earned a BEST practice award from the state of Ohio in recognition of its work to raise academic achievement among African-American males.

MAC presents underachieving freshmen and sophomore African-American males with opportunities to meet with junior and senior African-American males who have been successful in academics. During these meetings, the students can discuss topics dealing with school, such as grades and goals, as well as social problems. These meetings also help to create close friendships among the students.

Bradell complained that there needed to be a club that promoted brotherhood between African-American males, and this is exactly what MAC Scholars is doing.

MAC is not the only example of the distance we have traveled in the short time between the printing of Bradell's letter to the present. Another notable organization directed at African-American studies is the African-American Culture Association (AACA). One way to enhance the development of our community is to become directly involved with the African-American community, both in and outside of the high school.

It states in the Clubs and Activities Handbook, "The mission of the African-American Culture Association (AACA) is to serve as a voluntary student organization providing extended education and educational opportunities to all high school students, grades 9-12, their families and the Shaker Heights community at large." This quote clearly defines AACA as a movement designed to help students in and out of school.

Bradell's first complaint was that there was not enough mutual respect among African Americans and that every time an attempt at amending the problem arose, it was shot down. Bradell might feel otherwise if he attended Shaker today and could see the clubs and activities that have grown in the years since his departure.

His second concern was that the African-American community at the high school was not represented on the newspaper staff, and therefore could not voice their opinions through the *Shakerite*.

The *Shakerite* staff also has evolved in the nine years after Bradell's letter. Co-Editor in Chief Najah Farley and Art Editor Dan Moody are African American. The

Centerpiece Co-Editors also add to the *Shakerite*'s diversity. Lisa Samols is Philippino-Chinese and Shaila Shah is Indian. Although it can definitely become more integrated, diversity among the membership has enriched the opinions and performance of the staff.

In the past decade, Shaker has made some definite improvements in the number of clubs that address the needs of the African-American school community. Both the MAC and AACA have had a positive effect on African-American identity and self-respect.

However, the progress we have made is not limited to the clubs themselves, but the products of these developments.

An article published in the February 1997 *Shakerite*, titled "Black and White or Shades of Gray?" has also, like Bradell's letter, forced people to open their eyes to the situation at hand: a majority of African Americans were trailing white students in academic achievement. Although the article incited a great deal of very emotional protest, it ultimately had a positive effect on the problem itself.

The article forced people in our community to deal directly with each other in order to address the issue, and this is a good example of institutional benefit. The fact that students were able to raise their opinions and be heard shows things aren't the same as they were in 1989. African-American voices are heard and they are an important part of Shaker's development.

Although segregation among students is dissipating in some arenas, disproportionate racial participation is still the norm in some school clubs and activities. For example, the basketball team is predominantly African American, as is the cheerleading squad. The golf and lacrosse teams comprise mostly white members. But this is coincidental. It's not that certain people aren't being accepted to these teams because of their race; it's because the better candidates are chosen from the available pool of participants.

Years ago, the cheerleading team was all white, and now that it is black, people have complained about it. The school wouldn't even post the list for who made the team because no white people tried out.

Students today don't have a right to complain about lack of participation in clubs by all races because so much is offered in response to that complaint. Someone who is upset should be participating in minority clubs instead of just complaining about them. Those who care will make a difference, just like Bradell did.

Since Bradell's letter to the editor nine years ago the issues of African-American identity and self-respect have been and continue to be addressed. Racial imbalance in certain clubs and activities is still evident. However, the time has come for the fearful state of mind, which has students scared to join a club they feel is all one race, to disappear.

There is no excuse for anyone to be upset about lack of racial diversity within interscholastic activities because the opportunities are given to us. Everyone now has the ability to make a difference. Go to a meeting for MAC or AACA, take journalism and publish your articles in the school newspaper.

We have come far, but don't stop now. Bradell would be more disappointed by witnessing our failure to take advantage of opportunities than he was by seeing no opportunities at all.

## High school stage is no place for pros

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

I read the article "The Man Is Denied: Students Veto Man of La Mancha," by Rachel Kibbe in the Sept. 18 *Shakerite*. I think Dr. [Jack] Rumbaugh should have told Mr. [James] Thorton "No way," right from the start.

Let's compare the theater department to the sports teams. What's to say coach [Dave] Sedmak can't call in John Elway as a "guest artist" for the football team or maybe coach [Mike] Bartley could ask Wayne Gretzky to

be a "guest artist" for the hockey team. Crazy, right? Well it's just as crazy for the theater department to bring in a professional actress. You can say that the "guest artist" is a graduate, but then would it be OK for coach Sedmak to call in Nate Clements or for coach Bartley to call in Ben Simon? As the TV ad goes, "I don't think so!"

The Shaker Heights High School theater department is just that — Shaker Heights High School. We are in school to learn by doing, not by watching. My parents come to hockey games to watch me and my friends.

They could go to a Lumberjacks game, but I think that they would rather watch me and my friends. When they watch theater, they usually take us to New York or to Playhouse Square to see a show. When they go to the high school, they go to see my friends perform.

Get real theater department! Shaker Heights High School has at least 1500 students. We must have some talent here. I for one feel the theater department is a cult. They always seem to blow things out of proportion. The theater department should be treated like the rest of the school. Use the talent that you've got!

- Joe Simon, senior





Shakerite artwork by  
Christine Powers

# PASSING JUDGMENTS

*Creating generalizations and stereotypes about others has been a part of high school for a long time. Take a deeper look into what makes stereotypes appear, why they endure and what students say.*



Shakerite artwork by  
Christine Powers

So, what do you think of those Parma chicks? How about those dudes from St. Ignace? Any opinions regarding students from Solon? Orange? Beachwood?

We as a school and a community hold generalized opinions, or stereotypes, about all of these places, and most of those opinions are not exactly flattering.

"A stereotype is characterizing a whole group on the actions or appearance of one member of that group," said sophomore Alex Fuller, a core leader in the Student Group on Race Relations.

What makes a stereotype so widespread throughout the community and the region? What is the basis for all of the nasty things we say about other schools? Surely not everyone is what we say they are.

"People are afraid of what they don't know, so when they stay inside their group, it reinforces their fear," Fuller said.

In general, the stereotypes we assign to other communities and the stereotypes they assign to us are based on either race or income.

Research has shown that the farther away from an urban center a community is situated, the less racially integrated it tends to be.

"There are some schools of all one race who don't normally encounter others, and when they do, they don't react very well," said Jon Macknin, a junior at Beachwood High School.

This trend can be found close to home. Communities bordering Cleveland are more diverse than those in suburban or rural Ohio. Shaker Heights High School is more than 50 percent African-American. Cleveland Heights High School has an African-American population of more than 71 percent.

However, the percentage of African-American students and students of other racial and ethnic backgrounds significantly decreases farther away from Cleveland. For instance, Solon High School is 90 percent Caucasian and only 5 percent African-American. These unbalanced statistics lead people to stereotype communities based on their racial composition.

Although Shaker possesses diversity that would seem to defeat such stereotypes, in reality, the integration results in more diverse stereotypes. Students from schools of predominantly one race or class draw on the aspects of Shaker that differ from their own experience in order to create and sustain negative generalizations. Although Shaker's diversity would seem to discourage its students from degrading other communities, Shaker students are just as quick to use stereotypes as less diverse schools may be.

"I think Shaker prides itself on being integrated and diverse, but when they see another city that isn't so diverse, they belittle it," sophomore Jamie Stroom said.

Because Shaker's students come from a wide range of backgrounds, racial stereotypes are not as rampant as the class stereotypes some students often use. Shaker has very little commercial property, resulting in higher property taxes, which means it costs a little more to live here than in other communities. For this reason, Shaker residents have acquired the reputation of being rich, and along with that, snobby.

"People think that Shaker kids are stuck-up, rich people," junior Andy Spencer said. "[People from other communities] figure, 'Oh, they live in Shaker, so they must have money,'" senior Patrice Nicholson said.

On the other hand, other communities' cultural traits and socioeconomic status are sources of much ridicule from Shaker students.

"I hear stuff like, 'Wooster is all cornfields' and 'Parma has nine-foot hair,'" freshman Laura Barnes said. "It makes me wonder what these people are really like."

People's true characters are often masked by stereotypes and generalizations.

"I truly think that stereotypes are evil," freshman Lauren Licina said. "There is nothing that can be done to stop the false assumptions, but it would be much better if people wouldn't use them to judge other people. It's just not fair."

-Shaila Shah & Lisa Samols, Centerpiece Co-Editors

## FOULS ON THE PLAYING FIELD

If you want to know what students think of each other's schools, just go to a football game. Or a basketball game, or any interscholastic athletic event.

Students from neighboring schools don't see each other very often. When they do, it's often in the competitive environment that surrounds athletic contests. Because schools are judged throughout the city, state and even nation by their sports teams, their most public face is often that of the athlete.

Students from every school voice comments about those athletes and, in turn, their school. The judgments often go beyond athletic prowess, however. Race, class, academic ability — all are open to attack and generalization at sports events.

To find out exactly what other kids say about Shaker, Shakerite staffers went to a varsity football game in Mentor and sat in their home stands. As Shaker began to stomp Mentor on the field, their fans began to stomp on Shaker... verbally. Some parents and students were shouting like mad at the field and opposite stands. Their targets: Shaker players and families.

To be sure, Shaker fans are just as likely to hurl ignorant stereotypes at their foes. Again, comments tend to focus on how the target is different from what students know of their own school.

At the Mentor game, insults were based mostly on race.

The things we heard included comments such as, "Get those [n-word] off the field" and "Look at all the blacks in Shaker." After we revealed ourselves as Shaker students, we too were harassed. We were bombarded with phrases such as "Rich kids — you guys think you're better than us, huh?" These phrases were accompanied by profanity.

However, according to one Mentor student, the fans who made these comments do not represent the rest of the school.

"I am so offended by [the comments]," Mentor junior Rebecca Reichert said. "They probably wanted to come up with an excuse for why we were losing."

-Nikkie Majorczyk, Sports Co-Editor & Steve Strang, Staff Reporter

## HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT AND HIGH SCHOOL JUDGEMENTS

High school is among the environments most conducive to stereotyping other schools and communities. High school represents a sudden emphasis on competition, which may lead to negative generalizations of rival schools.

Students are more likely to hear stereotypes at the high school than at the elementary schools. Many of the stereotypes begin at the high school for various reasons.

"I think one of the reasons why stereotypes of other communities start at the high school is because students become smarter and tend to think about stuff like this in more depth. Another reason could be because we have more contact with other schools through interscholastic [sports] and academic events. We are becoming more judgmental and because of that stereotypes are being created," freshman Adam Green said.

"Because schools are judged throughout the city, state and even nation by their sports teams, their most public face is often that of the athlete."

"The high schools are competitive, and the other schools think their schools are the best. At sporting events, different schools are mixed in with each other, and we base our opinions on who we see at the games," freshman Abra Kinkopf said.

"Trashing other communities seems to come along with school spirit," freshman Missy Hendrick said.

The youngest high school students are most susceptible to stereotyping because they have yet to meet many students from other schools. It's that ignorance that leads to generalizations and that prevents individuals from approaching each other as people instead of as groups.

"People will always judge other communities by what they hear, not by who those people are and if the stereotype is true or not," freshman Kati Nosse said.

-Leah Kaufman, Staff Reporter

## ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

When asked to write a column about Cleveland Heights High School's stereotypes about Shaker, I admit I snidely thought of two: snobby and rich. I quickly remembered my values, but those Shaker labels are forever engraved in my high school experience.

Before casting any stones, realize that I do not live by my stereotypes. Some of my best friends are Shaker students. I have even dated one. However, a rivalry between Shaker and Heights is evident. Though I have befriended Shaker students, I would not think to sit with them during a sporting event or to discuss SAT scores. Most of my Heights peers seem to hold the same opinion. The rivalry is so great that Shaker and Heights football games are not allowed to be held at night for fear of violence. As I talked to some friends about this subject, most expressed what I will state as my observation of Shaker: though I have friends at Shaker who are exceptions, most students there are snobby and rich. Some also mentioned that Shaker has more racial tension than Heights.

While anyone who knows someone at Shaker can name an exception to these generalizations, not one person asked felt Shaker did not suffer from a snobby reputation. Does this mean anything? Of course not. We are high school students coming of age, trying to find where we belong. In order to succeed, most students create categories to place people in. This makes one's situation clearer and easier to understand; categories define what we cannot explain. High school students also fall victim to a superiority/inferiority conflict. Often they build up their environment by putting another's down.

Perhaps another reason for the rivalry stems from the districts being so similar yet so different. Shaker and Heights are both struggling with the same urban/suburban issues facing schools of the '90s, everything from gangs to proficiency test scores. While both districts are similar in that each is diverse in race, socioeconomic levels and ethnicities, Shaker seems to hold a reputation of, as my friend so eloquently states, a "preppy school."

Both schools have their fair share of stereotypes of the other. Many Shaker students have shared with me their view of Heights as a gang-infested school, and several have mentioned that Heights looks like a prison. Neither set of stereotypes is completely true, but neither is completely false. As a famous Heights teacher once said, "All generalizations are false."

-Sally Abrahamson, Editor-in-Chief of the  
Cleveland Heights Black & Gold



Shakerite artwork by Christine Powers



Shakerite artwork by Christine Powers



1. Vol. 2...Hard Knock Life...Jay-Z
2. The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill...Lauryn Hill
3. Come On Over...Shania Twain
4. 'N Sync...N Sync
5. Aquemini...Outkast

6. The Globe Standards...Sheryl Crow
7. Stunt...Barenaked Ladies
8. Rush Hour Soundtrack...Various
9. Backstreet Boys...Backstreet Boys
10. Wide Open Spaces...Dixie Chicks

Shakerite Source: Billboard Magazine

# Rock Hall's popularity drops

## Students bored with over-priced landmark

BY MIKE EMRICH  
Staff Reporter

The House that Rock Built is losing cash, and Shaker students don't seem eager to pay the rent.

"I think it's just lost its pizzazz," said five-time visitor Ashley Manly, a freshman. "It's fun to see new things, but they don't come that often."

According to the *Plain Dealer*, museum statistics indicate the Hall posted a \$1.37 million loss during the 1997 calendar year, a 17 percent drop from the \$20.3 million generated in 1996.

In spite of the stats, museum officials emphasize the Rock Hall's broad appeal.

"The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame offers something for people all over the map, whether they be young adults, families, boy, girl — anybody," said Howard Kramer, assistant curator at the Rock Hall.

According to the *Plain Dealer*, the Rock Hall drew only 615,000 visitors in 1997, compared to 867,000 in 1996. By comparison, in its first 12 months of operation, from September 1995 to September 1996, the Rock Hall had 1 million visitors. The museum has come to expect about 500,000 visitors a year.

Three-time visitor Andy Baron said the Rock Hall has lost its edge. "The only thing that I like is the Psychedelic exhibit, Janis Joplin's car and the original lyrics section featuring John Lennon and Jimi Hendrix," said Baron, a junior.

Kramer cited high school students as one of several groups least likely to visit the museum. Most high school students who visit the Rock Hall are introduced to it through educational programs such as Plugged In. This program includes a board of professionals who target attractions for teenagers and try to incorporate their interests into the exhibits.

In spite of those efforts, Shaker students said the museum experience quick-

ly grows stale. "It's only good to go when they have concerts there. After a while it just gets old. Plus the food is no good and the gift shop is a rip-off," said Baron, a guitarist who performs at an amateur club. Statistics also show that the museum's store lost about \$1.3 million from 1996 to 1997.

Junior Mike Hood said museum exhibits must change if they are to compete with students' home entertainment resources. "It has too much hype behind the name and not too many interesting things

to offer," said Hood, who has visited the museum seven times. "People have CDs at home. Why look at a wax figure and read a small paragraph? If they change the museum, people would start to think about going."

According to Kramer, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame has just opened new attractions. The new Elvis Exhibit opened in August, the Annual Music Masters series will open some time this month, and End Of Innocence opened recently.

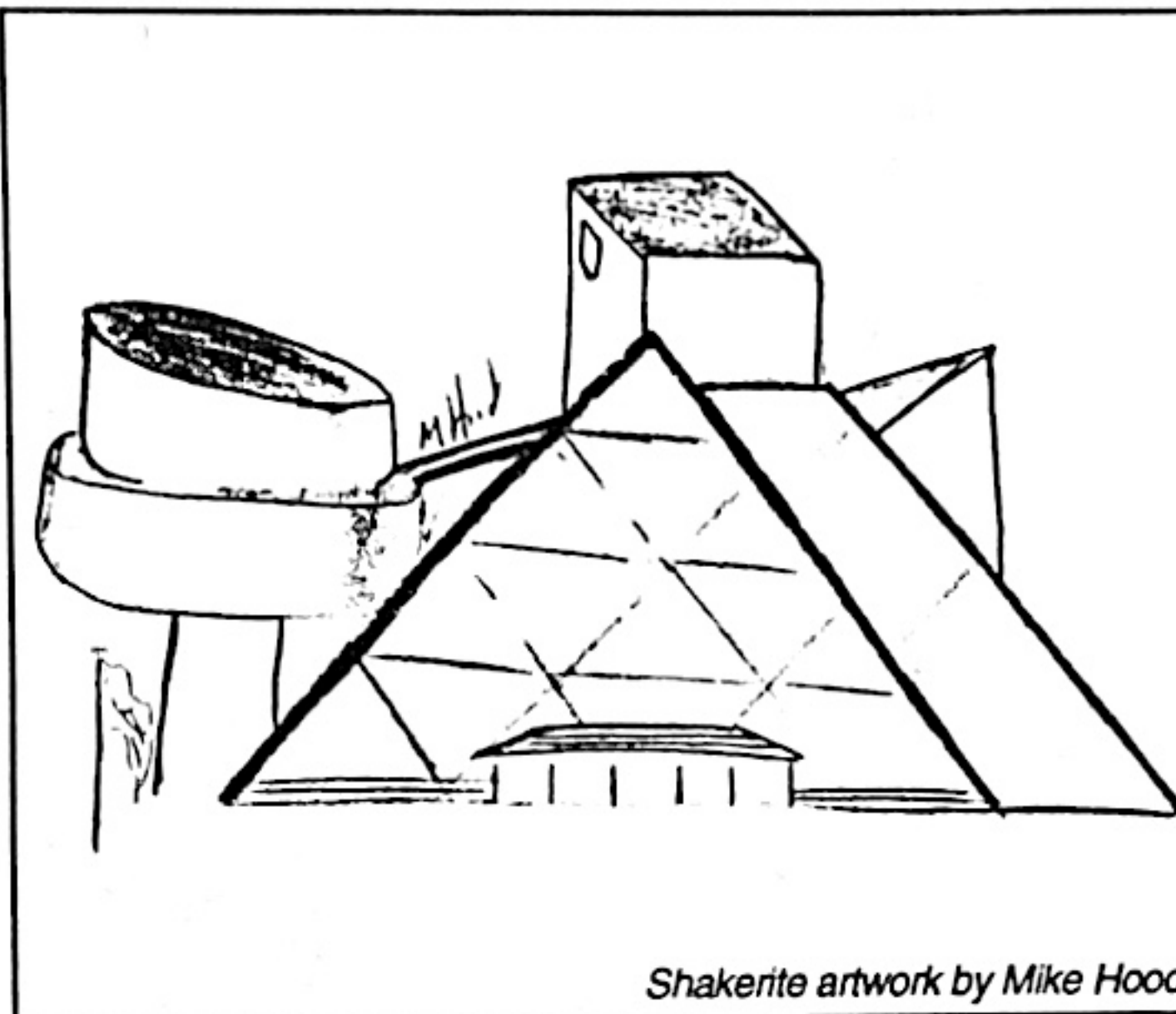
Hall exhibits are modified constantly. "It's hard to say what is to come in the future. There are no permanent plans until the new executive director arrives," Kramer said.

Students said the exhibits are not contemporary enough to hold their interest. "It is a good representation of the artist but [it] is for older generations," said senior Noemi Baffy, who has visited the Rock Hall twice.

Manly agreed. "Maybe if they put more contemporary groups or things of our age, high school kids would go," she said. Lack of interest is not the only thing that stops Shaker students from visiting The House that Rock Built. At a price of \$14.95, many students feel the ticket is not worth their time and money. "It is \$6 to go to a movie and a lot less to go to any other museum. Who wants to pay \$15?" Baron said. "Whoever is crazy enough to pay \$15 can come to my house and I'll show 'em what's going on."

"I understand it costs money to keep up the exhibits, but \$15 is outrageous. It's just overpriced," Baffy said.

The Rock Hall states that they are currently operating in a break-even situation. "People will come back because the Rock Hall is unique, it is one of a kind, there is no other like it," Kramer said. "We are constantly changing and we have new events and concerts all the time."



Shakerite artwork by Mike Hood

## REVIEWS

### Musical Chairs — Hootie & the Blowfish

Darius Rucker, Mark Bryan, Dean Felber and Jim Sonefeld, also known as Hootie & the Blowfish, are back with a new collection of songs. The new album, *Musical Chairs*, captures Hootie's classic bittersweet melodies and lyrics, teamed with new elements as saxophonist Leroy Moore and violinist Boyd Tinsely perform on several tracks. This album brings back memories of Hootie's first effort, *Cracked Rear View*, and far surpasses their sophomore release, *Fairweather Johnson*. *Musical Chairs* is definitely worth a listen.

out of four

-Nate Levin

### Aquemini — Outkast

While the pictures on the CD itself are not as entertaining this time around, Outkast has come raw with their third album, *Aquemini*. (The cross between Aquarius and Gemini.) The new album combines Outkast's trademark southern rap style with a new, more soulful beat. This new image may be due to collaboration with Goodie Mob, Raekwon, George Clinton and Erykah Badu. Songs not to miss are "West Savannah" and "Skew it on the Bar-B." Mind you, this CD is not for the faint of heart as explicit lyrics shower the album. However, if you think that you can handle it, *Aquemini* is a must to have.

out of four

-Scott Martin

### Beloved

Oprah Winfrey's project has finally come to the big screen in the form of *Beloved*, a film based on Toni Morrison's novel. This movie takes a deep look at the emotional and spiritual aspects of slavery. Sethe, played by Oprah Winfrey, escapes from slavery, but doesn't escape from its memories, personified in the form of her murdered daughter who returns to haunt her. As a result, everyone who sets foot into the house is affected by *Beloved's* reign of terror. This film's emotional intensity is very hard to stomach. Although this movie might give you nightmares and its complicated plot is hard to follow, it is a movie worth seeing because it is a unique and perceptive story of slavery recounted on a personal level.

out of four

-Najah Farley

### Simon Birch

*Simon Birch*, adapted from John Irving's *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, is about a young boy who is incredibly tiny for his age, but has tremendous dreams and faith.

The film is based in a small town during the 1960s and stars Ian Smith in the title role.

*Simon Birch* is an incredibly moving film that will send the viewer through laughter, tears, bitterness, tenderness and every possible emotion in between. *Simon Birch* will hit home and inspire viewers to overcome whatever obstacle they may face, no matter how great or how tiny.

out of four

-Debra Kamin

## A&E STYLE

# Raider of the Month

BY NATE AUERBACH  
Staff Reporter

In the basement there lurks a Mickey Mouse mural across from the art room signed by senior Erica Manley.

Two years ago, as the art department was moving down to the basement, Manley was showing Jim Hoffman, the art department chairman, some of her work. Having bare walls around the new location, he wanted to give his environment some character, representing the artists at the high school. He decided to let Manley paint a mural of her favorite drawing.

Being the artist she is, Manley had a lot of artwork to choose from. She knew what she had to narrow it down. "Mickey Mouse is my fave," she said. "He [Hoffman] thought that would be real nice and happy." Everyone who knows her knows she loves Mickey.

"I was trying to use an Andy Warhol concept," the artist said. As she painted, she got away from this idea and went on to her own concept.

Manley has left her mark in the school with her name brightly painted on her mural. "I just hope that my name

doesn't get painted over," she said. "I want to come back for my 10-year reunion and be able to say 'Look what I did.'"

Manley currently takes art portfolio. After school she is a part of the chess club and AFS/ISO. Other activities she's involved with include stage crew, piano, Taekwondo and taking other art courses at the CIA.

Manley enjoys all types of art. She likes airbrushing and caricature. "I like black and white more than color," she said. She tried expanding her art horizons and taking up photography, but she said that she likes drawing better.

Manley looked at private high schools that might have offered more art classes. However, she stuck with the Shaker school system. "I've really enjoyed my last few years here," she said. "I think we have a strong art program. I've noticed it's one of the better ones."

The advice Manley leaves to students is practice. "The more you do it, the better you get," she said. She is still learning much about her drawing and absorbing as much as she can. She has only begun to learn.



M-I-C-K-E-Y E-R-I-C-A.

Senior Erica Manley poses in front of her masterpiece, located in the art wing of the basement.

Shakerite photo by Nikkie Majorczyk



# I don't want my MTV!

BY NATE LEVIN  
A&E Editor

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away, God created a cable music network, and it was good. God said, "Let there be music videos," and there were and they were good. God said, "Let there be an awards show," and there was and it was good. Then somewhere along the line, God became lazy and



Shakerite photo by Sarah Rosta

the greatest cable network known to man changed from the leader of a new generation, to a boring channel that has lost sight of the goal that the station's name carries. Music Television (MTV) is no longer the trend-setting voice that it once was.

MTV debuted in 1982. The first video aired was the anthem "Video Killed the Radio Star."

The channel changed the way that musicians were marketed. Previously, bands would shoot promos set to music that would run after the evening news, or as trailers at movie theaters. Gone were the days in which musicians had to play weekly on variety shows. Now musicians could save time and money by shooting a single video that could air almost every hour.

Aside from this new way for artists to share their music, MTV provided them the opportunity to set trends in fashion and views on popular subjects. An entire 24-hour programming network was dedicated to sharing the lives and work of musicians. This was a publicist's dream.

As the '80s changed into the '90s and we traded our Motley Crew records for Pearl Jam CDs, MTV changed too—for the worse.

Big-wig executives felt that young adults didn't want to see the likes of Steven Tyler and M.C. Hammer and would rather watch shows that had nothing to do with music, shows like the *Real World*, *Road Rules*, *Beavis and Butt-head* and *Remote Control*. MTV changed its entire format to feature non-music programming.

No one wants to see a group of immature adults in their early 20s travel around the country or try to start a business. Why am I expected to care about Flora, Puck, Julie, Eric or Sean? Why are we brainwashed into having a false bond with people?

It is beyond my comprehension why anyone would choose to view these programs. I don't understand the fascination with watching a group of petty folks argue as they travel around the country in a van.

Some may argue that video-based shows such as *Total Request*, *Jams Countdown* and *Say What* make up for the channel's lack of raw video play. This is a just argument, except that these programs show the same videos over and over again. If anything, the programming becomes bad PR for the stars as their songs and styles become played out. In turn, MTV can be blamed for fueling some of the greatest pop culture backlashes of our time against acts as the New Kids on the Block, Nirvana and Milli Vanilli.

Finally, MTV has changed the role of the video jockey. When first conceived, the VJ was an attractive, personable, trendy young adult who simply introduced videos. Over the years MTV has made the VJ into an icon. VJs, because of their air time, are presented with other opportunities such as modeling gigs, talk shows and sit-coms.

If MTV were really in tune with today's youth, they would realize that what they air is not at all what we want. Instead they tell us what we want and feed our minds with hours and hours of pointless babble. For the first time I can say, I don't want my MTV!

## Halloween Happenings

### Geauga Lake's Hallowscream

330-562-7131

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

4p.m. to 12a.m.

November 1

4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

#### Admission:

\$14.99 adults

\$11.99 children



### Dover Water Park's Undead Entertainment

330-467-7946

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

7p.m. to 12a.m.

#### Admission:

\$7 adults

\$4 children

### Bloodview Haunted House

440-526-9148

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

8p.m. to 12a.m.

#### Admission:

\$8 first time

through

\$2 second time

same night



### Haunted School and Laboratory

330-849-0211

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

7p.m. to 12a.m.

November 1

7p.m. to 10p.m.

#### Admission:

\$7.75 for both

houses

### Nightmare in Painesville

216-556-4148

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

7p.m. to 12a.m.

November 1

7p.m. to 12a.m.

#### Admission

\$12 includes four houses



Shakerite artwork by Nate Levin

### Halloween Knights 1998

888-633-4382

#### Dates/Times:

October 30, 31

7p.m. to 12 a.m.

#### Admission:

\$6 for house

\$6 for hay-ride

\$11 for both

free parking

Shakerite information compiled by Maryl Kramer

## Kiev orchestra visits Shaker, raises money for charities.

BY KAREN JENKS  
Staff Reporter

On a world tour from the Ukraine, the Kiev Symphony Orchestra and Chorus performed at the high school Sept. 23.

The orchestra, choir and dancers from Kiev made their second world tour under the baton of Roger McMurrin. They performed at both the high school and Onaway Elementary School before their benefit concert at Severance Hall that evening.

At the high school, the artists performed parts of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, and "America the Beautiful." The enthusiasm of the artists was met with thunderous applause from students.

Larry Lisak and Marge Eisenberg, advisers of the Russian Club and teachers of the Russian Studies course at the high school, teamed up with Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh to host these musicians for dinner in the high school cafeteria.

The high school took many pains to ensure the comfort and convenience of the musicians. Rumbaugh and Lisak discussed details such as whether the Ukrainians would feel comfortable eating with their fingers. Because the price of fruit is so high in the Ukraine, according to Lisak, the high school prepared large bowls of fresh fruit for the guests.

"I want them [the Ukrainians] to feel really special," Rumbaugh said.

The high school choir sang to the musicians as they walked into dinner. Their program included numerous repetitions of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." In the Ukraine, being serenaded before a meal is considered a significant compliment, according to Rumbaugh.

After the musicians were seated at the dinner, Roger McMurrin presented the orchestra with a full set of strings for each member. These strings were donated by Dr. John Flower, former president and professor emeritus of music at Cleveland State University.

One of the choir members, thinks of the group as "one big, big family." She was grateful to all of the people who opened their homes to the traveling musicians.

"Each part of the United States was different, but all people were hospitable," she said.

"It's wonderful and beautiful," said a bassist in the orchestra. "America is excellent."

The *Sun Press* reported that in 1993 the orchestra and chorus were founded by McMurrin, who received his master's degree from The Ohio State University. The group comprises approximately 105 singers and 60 string musicians. The musicians also work in state professional orchestras and choirs.

The Ukraine is the second most populous country in Europe, next to Russia. The group founded by McMurrin is the only private choir-orchestra group in the Ukraine.

The group is made up of "probably the finest musicians in the Ukraine," said Lee McMurrin, brother of the conductor and former superintendent of the Beachwood City School District. He added that although the Ukrainians have endured isolation and oppression, they have some of the finest music schools in Europe.

"The musicians are very poor," Lee McMurrin said. He said they were paid \$1 per concert when Roger McMurrin first arrived in the Ukraine. Now, five years later, their conductor has increased the price per concert by \$4.

According to the *Sun Press*, the Ukrainians were particularly interested in American charities on their first tour here. After the Soviet era, during which charities were illegal in the Ukraine, the orchestra and chorus set up their own charity, a widows' program.

After dinner at the high school, the musicians performed at Severance Hall in their Cleveland premiere. This concert was a fundraiser, and proceeds will go to children suffering from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

## What's? Goin' On?

- ☐ **Cherry Poppin' Daddies w/ The Pietasters**  
—The Agora, October 30
- ☐ **Ringling Brothers Circus**  
—Gund Arena, Through November 1
- ☐ **Moxy Fruvous**  
—CWRU, November 4
- ☐ **Squirrel Nut Zippers**  
—The Lakewood Civic, November 4
- ☐ **Diamond Rio**  
—Ashland University, September 19
- ☐ **Cake**  
—The Agora, November 4
- ☐ **Saw Doctors**  
—The Odeon, November 5
- ☐ **Fastball**  
—Peabody's, November 7
- ☐ **Mary Chapin Carpenter**  
—The Allen Theater, November 7
- ☐ **Depeche Mode**  
—Gund Arena, November 8
- ☐ **Goo Goo Dolls w/ Athenaeum**  
—The Agora, November 11
- ☐ **Billy Joel**  
—Gund Arena, November 12
- ☐ **Rick James**  
—State Theater, November 12
- ☐ **Phish**  
—The CSU Pavillion, November 13
- ☐ **Strangefolk w/ Moe**  
—Peabody's, November 14
- ☐ **Marilyn Manson**  
—Music Hall, November 14
- ☐ **Brooks & Dunn w/ Reba McIntyre**  
—Gund Arena, November 20
- ☐ **Jason Bonham Band**  
—The Agora, November 27
- ☐ **The Deftones**  
—The Agora, November 28
- ☐ **'N Sync**  
—The Lakewood Civic, December 4
- ☐ **Boston Pops**  
—Gund Arena, December 10
- ☐ **Aerosmith**  
—Gund Arena, December 15

☐ Ticket information is available from Ticketmaster at 241-5555



The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go.

Unless someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
Nothing is going to get better.  
It's not.

## Finders, keepers

True confessions of a packrat

BY JESSE GRIFFITHS

Feature Co-Editor



Do you suffer from pack-ratitis? Do you save piles of junk (yes, junk) that you probably won't use? If so, you're not alone.

Every day, hundreds of people repeat those same horrid questions: Should I throw it out? What if the day after I get rid of it, I find a use? Oh woe is me!

Sadly, I, along with my mother's side of the family, face these questions more often than I'd like to admit.

I can't exactly tell you why my mom once bought a huge box of moss that to this day sits in our basement. There is so much moss in that box that the entire deer population of Cuyahoga County could feed off of it for at least two years.

I also have no way of defending the mountains of junk that I've kept over my 16 years on earth, but I find it impossible to part with it.

A pair of black Beate boots that my dad was going to throw out comes to mind. They were going to be given away when I was 7. Though at the time I knew that those shoes didn't fit me and probably never would, I couldn't bear to see them go. Thus I ferreted them away in the safety of my closet, where they sat, and still sit. Every time I see them, I think I should get rid of those useless boots. But alas, it's a fleeting thought. It never actually happens. Why not?

Somewhere in my subconscious do I think that one day all other shoes will suddenly cease to exist, and I'll be grateful to have an old pair of 1960s Beate boots. Maybe all of the pairs of shoes that I trash will come to life, meet up in a rancid junk yard, and conspire to punish me for callously discarding them.

No, I, along with the rest of my family, have a DNA flaw. Somewhere, there's a faulty gene. Like my blood type and hair color, this inability to part with papers and Surge cans was handed to me before birth. I'm not crazy. It's not my fault... it's my mom's!

Facts: My grandma has every pot, pan and fork that she's ever bought. If it's not in the kitchen, it lurks in the deepest basement corner.

My aunt saves boxes of tiles — tiny, colored ceramic ones. As long as they've sat in her garage, she surely must have an awe-inspiring plan for them. Maybe a mosaic to be given to her eight-year-old daughter on her wedding day.

My great uncle, a very wise and generous man, had a basement bubbling over with seashells. As a child, I walked through his basement and wondered what ocean threw up down there. I spent nights pondering what my uncle planned for all those useless shells. Prior to his family's move to Florida, his wife snuck down stairs during the wee hours of night, intent on discarding one shell at a time. Her ritual removal of shells must have, in the long run, saved them more than \$100 in moving costs.

These stories about my family and the clutter curse are proof that packratitis is a family trait. That our bloodline is to be held accountable. We aren't alone. Many other people who aren't quite as brave as I am reluctant to come out of the clutter closet. These poor souls suffer from the same infernal glitch in their genes.

Sadly, I'm stuck with my disorder, but there's hope for my children. I've heard about gene therapy, when scientist and doctors alter a faulty gene in an embryo. One day, gene alteration will become a common way to prevent inherited defects before a child is born.

I only hope that the scientific community will identify the dreaded packrat gene and see it for what it truly is — a hideous, incurable disease that brings shame to millions. I pray they'll begin to use these fancy gene therapy techniques before I have children. The thought that my children may grow up with this awful syndrome makes me shudder in my oversized, hand-me-down Beate boots!

## Leave your message after the beeeep

### Answering machines reveal humor and personality

BY ETHAN ZINN

Staff Reporter

Tired of waiting for your friend to pick up the phone, you finally hear the tell-tale click, followed quickly by, "What? I can't hear you."

"Hello?"  
you respond.  
Silence.

"Hello? Alex?"  
BEEEEEP.

You're not crazy. You called Alex Herrup-Morse, whose message is among the more annoying attempts at answering machine humor. A byproduct of secondary phone lines installed to accommodate hours of Internet use is a new way to express creativity, amuse friends and annoy adults — playing the ever popular game of answering machine sabotage.

"I have my own line so I had the opportunity to turn something mundane into something that could brighten up my friends' day," said senior Amy Libman, who bought a professionally made tape of messages for her machine, which now features the eerie music of *Welcome to the Answering Machine Zone*.

"Why not take advantage of it?" Libman said.

Dr. Linda Rogers, a professor of education at Kent State University, feels that enjoyment is only a small part of the motivation behind these messages. She believes they also serve as

important ingredients in the identities people form for themselves.

"When you call someone, you enter their homespace, and they feel the need to represent themselves, whether they are there or not," Rogers said.

Rogers utilizes semiotics, the study of signs and symbols, in her research. Semiotic theory suggests that every representation of an individual is meaningful and can be interpreted to learn more about him or her. In that vein, some messages,

such as sophomore Dave Gelehrter's, could be a little disturbing.

Gelehrter's answering machine message might puzzle any professor. In a deep, ominous voice he says, "Why, hello. You have reached the domain of the beast. The Gelehrters are currently tied up in the garage and at my mercy while I pillage their residence. Leave a message and I will do my best to relay it to them."

Freshman Jason Fisher's machine does not strike fear into the hearts of callers, but certainly leaves them dumbfounded. Fisher uses the ever-popular "Hello?" followed by a long, silent pause that lures the caller into starting a conversation.

When the caller finally realizes no response is coming, he's further humiliated by the sound of Fisher laughing.

"I called him up one time and thought I was talking to him. When I heard his machine laughing at me I was just like, 'DOH!'" freshman Kat Triester said.

Other students prefer to express their musical tastes through their messages. Both junior Patrick Hicks and sophomore Skippy Evans like to put their favorite rap songs on their machines.

"It was so boring before. Now my friends at least get to listen to music if I'm not there," Hicks said.

Efforts at frustrating or amusing callers are not limited to humans. Senior Feliz Terry collaborated with her pet.

"What's up my dogs?" Terry inquires, as her dog, Ru, barks in the background.

"This is the Ackermans. We're here to say we're not home at this time of day, but if you leave your name, number, too, as soon as we can, get back to you... Bye!"

You know we aren't able to answer the phone, so leave your message after the tone!

"Hello. Is John there? I want to speak with John!"

"Hi. You have reached this. I am home and could easily answer this, but the TV is broken, and this is my only source of entertainment..."

"You have reached the number you have dialed. Leave a message."



Shakerite artwork by Christine Powers

## WICKED, WACKY WEB SITES

A time-honored tradition of Halloween is the annual late night trek to *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. From the avid Rocky fan to the Rocky virgin, everyone should check out [www.kabinet.or.jp/cabinet/users/shiny/link.html](http://www.kabinet.or.jp/cabinet/users/shiny/link.html). This site has something for everyone, from the Rocky fan club to actual movie clips. Anyone will find this web page absolutely horrifying.

If you want to sport the best Halloween garb, you must visit

[www.Makeupmania.com/Halloween-makeup.html](http://www.Makeupmania.com/Halloween-makeup.html) Here you can shop for the most realistic scars and fangs available. Not only can you find the most fashionable wigs and capes here, but you can also find a plethora of special effects. This Halloween, don a horrific costume with the help of Makeup Mania

Ever thought about changing the color of your eyes? Maybe a nice sky blue or a bewitching purple?

[www.contactlenses.com/special.html](http://www.contactlenses.com/special.html) puts a new spin on fashion contacts. This site offers festive contact lenses, ranging from horrifying red cats-eye vampire lenses to the "white blind" lens. Even if you aren't interested in freaky eye wear, this is a great site to view while wondering who in their right mind would do such a thing.

Ever want to create your own haunted house, but you're not sure just how many skeletons you need? If so, then visit Igor's Fright Shack located at

[www.why.net/users/beefcake/ifs/legend.html](http://www.why.net/users/beefcake/ifs/legend.html), where you can find a variety of haunted house ideas, along with little known facts concerning the origin of Halloween. Igor also offers many spooky stories that will scare the masks off of your Halloween guests. This Halloween, turn to Igor for all your Halloween questions.



# Students add Shaker twist to slang

BY JULIE REDLINE  
Staff Reporter

Everyone remembers the infamous '60s slang words such as "groovy" and "far out," but what words heard in Shaker hallways today will stand the test of time?

One of the most common slang words heard throughout Shaker is "ghetto." This word can be used to describe people, clothing or music, according to sophomore Michael Sommers.

"If something is 'ghetto,' it is like something from the inner city. For example, FUBU clothes, those are ghetto," Sommers said.

Another sophomore, Danielle DeBerry, interprets this word slightly differently.

"'Ghetto' is like people who try and act like they're from certain neighborhoods, but they don't have good social graces," DeBerry said.

English teacher Helen Byrdson explained that the word "ghetto" often has a negative connotation, but in reality it just refers to an area in a city.

"Actually the definition of ghetto is the area where one group resides. Those areas are not slums," Byrdson said.

Though he wasn't familiar with the slang usage of the word, Latin teacher Robert White did have his own interpretation. "'Ghetto' is the place where poor people live," White said.

In some cases, the word has even more negative implications. Freshman Tony Ramos said that when he hears 'ghetto' describing something, he thinks about it negatively. "'Ghetto' is like dirty, not good," Ramos said.

Kids who use these definitions of ghetto do not understand that the word could be offensive to some people.

"It could be to anyone that has lived [in the ghetto]," Ramos said.

Michael Sommers sees the potential for insult but said that wouldn't stop him from using the word.

Another commonly used slang word is "phat." This is also used as an adjective, usually describing people.

"'Phat' is like good and it stands for

American Heritage Dictionary defines bootleg as "made, sold or transported illegally."

Although most students don't use this definition of the word, they generally agree with each other on the meaning. Students agreed that the slang term "bootleg" refers to an imitation brand of clothing.

"Something is bootleg if it is a cheaply made imitation of a usually reliable brand," Sommers said.

Although slang words are common among young people, teachers and adults are trying to stress the importance of proper English because it is the language of the professions.

"We're trying to encourage standard English," Byrdson said.

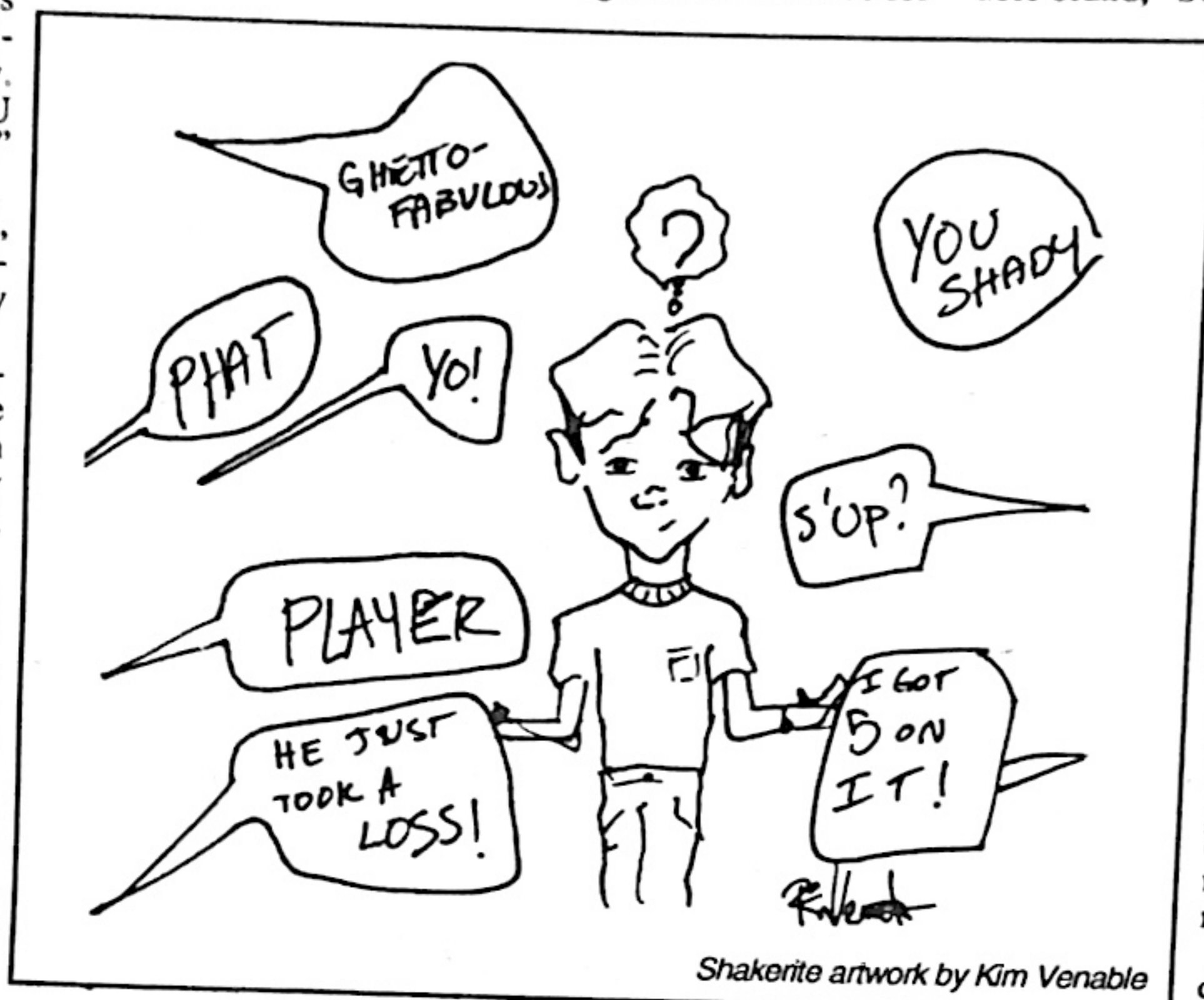
"You can be aware of slang, but it isn't appropriate to use it in a professional atmosphere."

Bob Olander, from the Tri-C Grammar Hotline, points out that slang is becoming more and more accepted in some media.

"I think it depends upon the publication," Olander said. "Publications like the *Plain Dealer* still don't use [slang], but some do."

A growing number of slang dictionaries have hit the market in print and on the Internet. More and more traditional dictionaries are including slang words as well.

"Dictionaries will include a word if they think that it is an accepted part of the language that is not offensive," Olander said.



Shakerite artwork by Kim Venable

'pretty hot and tempting,' " DeBerry said.

Ramos said girls understand the word's flattering intent. "Guys call girls [phat]. Some girls take it as a compliment," Ramos said.

"Phat" can commonly be confused with its homonym, "fat."

"'Fat' means obese," White said. "The word 'bootleg' is also used to describe things such as clothing. The

## GLOSSARY OF SHAKER SLANG

### • bootleg

Webster's New World Dictionary, College Edition  
to make, carry, or sell (liquor, etc.) illegally

### Shaker

something considered to be a knock-off (clothing, CD's, etc.)

### • jake

The Dictionary of Contemporary Slang  
excellent, satisfactory, correct

### Shaker

especially displeasing or unfavorable

### • sweet

The Official Dictionary of College Slang

great, very appealing

### Shaker

very cool or pleasing

### • tight

The Dictionary of Contemporary Slang  
mean, stingy, miserly

### Shaker

incredibly satisfactory or cool

## Tell-Tale Trivia

The new parking lot was built:

- Because new teaching staff created a demand for more parking spots.
- To annoy environmental activists by destroying precious grass.
- To get up to code with the Alien Rights Act, which requires a UFO landing pad.

Impeachment means:

- To challenge the practice or honesty of a public official.
- There is a lack of peaches in the United States.
- Changing the national anthem to "Peaches" by the Presidents of the United States of America

Halloween began as:

- A pagan ritual and celebration.
- A night when rebellious, sugar-starved children in raided candy stashes.
- A chance to dress like the Spice Girls without feeling dumb.

WMMS is changing formats because:

- Their play list just isn't getting adequate ratings.
- When The Morning Zoo left, remaining animals destroyed the CD inventory.
- The association of the buzzard with the devil's music outraged animal rights activists.

Heat in the high school turns on in December and stays on until May because:

- Lack of heat generates genius.
- History teachers wish to simulate the Puritan environment.
- The nurse's office faces annual quotas for heat exhaustion and frost bite.

Compiled by Jesse Griffiths

## New Faces In The Hall

### Luz-Elena Klopp

Teaching Assignment: Spanish Teacher

College: Bachelors Degree of Arts and Science

Previous Teaching Assignment: East Cleveland Board

Pet Peeve: People using profanity.

What Apples Do You Prefer: Red Delicious Apples

How Do You Eat Your Reeses Peanut Butter Cup:

One by one.

Best Piece Of Advice: Work hard for things you want in life.

Favorite Part About Teaching At Shaker: Good support from the administration.

If You Could Be Any Animal What Would It Be: A Rabbit.

If You Could Teach Any Other Subject What Would It Be: English

### Linda Loeffler

Teaching Assignment: Physical Science

College: Lots of "states"-Florida State, Cleveland State, Kent State

Previous Teaching Assignment: Shaker Middle School-11 years, Kent State-1 year, Shaker Heights High School-1 year

Best Shaker Kid Quote So Far: "We have homework due today?"

Scariest Moment So Far: Seeing a student attack another with a fire extinguisher.

How Do You Eat Your Reeses Peanut Butter Cup: Quickly.

If You Could Teach Any Other Subject What Would it Be: Phys. Ed., so I could wear shorts and have a whistle.

### Candace Pilny

Teaching Assignment: Physical Education

College: Kent State University

Previous Teaching Assignment: Brimfield Elementary, Cuyahoga Falls High School

Best Shaker Kid Quote So Far: "You want me to sweat in this shirt?"

Pet Peeve: When a person's shirt tag is sticking out of the back of their shirt.

What Apples Do You Prefer: I like any fresh apple.

How Do You Eat Your Reeses Peanut Butter Cup: The outer edge first.

Best Piece Of Advice: Once you manage your class, teaching will come easier.

If You Could Teach Any Other Subject What Would it Be: Health

### April L. Ratcliffe

Teaching Assignment: Teacher aide for Developmental Handicapped

College: Kent State University

Best Shaker Kid Quote So Far: I overheard some of the football players saying "Everything is attitude."

Pet Peeve: Using a dish towel as a hand towel and a messy house.

What Apples Do You Prefer: Granny Smith

How Do You Eat Your Reeses Peanut Butter Cup: Usually in two bites.

If You Could Be Any Animal, What Would It Be: A cat because they have such a care free life. They are independent. Sometimes three days will pass before I see one of my cats.

Compiled by Megan Johnston



Olympic track star Florence Griffith Joyner, Flo Jo, passed away this month. Her death fueled speculation that she had abused steroids in order to achieve Olympic glory. Coroner's reports proved that she died in her sleep of suffocation from an epileptic seizure. Joyner should be remembered as an Olympic track and field legend.

## Shaker football dominates LEL

### Raiders head into final games undefeated, ranked among Ohio's best programs and aiming for a state title

**CHUCK SACKMAN**  
Staff Reporter

It may be difficult to imagine a Shaker football team stronger than last year's, but the 1998 Raiders have plowed through their first eight games in an astonishing display of balanced power.

It's difficult to choose between offense and defense when pointing to the Raiders' top assets. Shaker has outscored its opponents by an average of 40 points per contest, and the defense has held opposing teams to about seven points per game. The Raider defense has also tallied five shutouts.

The Raiders offense doesn't pale by comparison. So far, Shaker has averaged 47 points a game, has scored 376 points on the year and has topped 50 four times.

The secret of the offense's explosion is balance, according to Head Coach Dave Sedmak.

"I think one reason for our success is that no one player is more important than

done that.

"We met all of our challenges so far," Sedmak said. "Also, we've shown steady progress, which is a trademark of the team. There's lots of experience, lots of talent and the kids have a very good work ethic."

Returning numerous key players from last year's team, which lost in the second round of the state playoffs, meant coaches did not have to make many drastic changes in their gameplan.

"For the most part, our strategies are similar because when you have an experienced team, you don't change a lot," Sedmak said.

"We realized that our goal of winning the state championship was obtainable after losing to St. Ignatius last year," Fallon said.

Nov. 7 the team will have a shot at the title.

The veterans have forged a bond over the years, and the team benefits from their friendships.

"They [the players] really seem to enjoy each other's company," Sedmak



**WORDS OF INSPIRATION.** The football team receives tips from Coach Tim Richards during an afternoon practice. Shakerite photo by Sarah Floris

## Faculty suggestions net positive results for Sedmak, Raiders

**STEVE STRANG**  
Staff Reporter

"That last play, a first down, was designed by our own social studies teacher Chuck Spinner," said Bob Wonsen, the announcer, as he called the action during Shaker's one-point home victory against Euclid Sept. 26.

That's right. Your ears aren't playing tricks on you. The Shaker football team, currently undefeated and a state championship contender, has used one play created by a faculty member in every home game this season, including contests against top-caliber opponents.

"Every week during the season we have a contest where faculty members submit a play, and we pick the best one and run it during the game, slightly modified," Head Coach Dave Sedmak said.

Spinner's play resulted in a critical first down during the tough Euclid game.

Thus far, about 12 plays have been submitted. Every play used to date has netted positive yardage. Guidance counselor Gerimae Kleinman and math teacher Alan Siebert also had their plays run in a game. Kleinman's for an 18-yard gain.

All three plays have at least achieved a first down, but science teacher Paul Repasy and his student teacher hold the title for best suggestion. Their play went for a touchdown in a game.

The idea for soliciting plays came from Sedmak and the rest of the coaching staff.

"One year we even had a guest coaching program," Sedmak said. "We would have a guest coach every week, and one time it was Dr. [Jack] Rumbaugh. This kind of stuff is fun and it gets people involved in the program."

Spinner's play was supposed to be a quarterback bootleg around left end. As it developed, however, quarterback Tim Reese realized his primary receiver was covered, so he ran the ball himself for the first down.

"I got to the game about three minutes after the opening kickoff, and when I sat down someone told me that they had already run my play, so I missed it," Spinner said. "It was exciting to hear about it, though."

Although Spinner was hoping for a touchdown, he was satisfied with what the team got and praised Reese for his quick thinking.

"I think the program is great this year, and I'm just glad that I could do my part to help out. I am sure that my play was the one-point edge that we needed to beat Euclid," Spinner said.

With the playoff picture taking shape, Spinner was optimistic about the faculty play program.

"I think that the twelfth man will carry Shaker into the playoffs. Other schools will have to start scouting not only the team, but the faculty as well. We teachers are beginning to terrorize the rest of the league," Spinner said.

Sedmak said, "The whole combination contributes."

Hard work, determination, and a lot of talent has led to their domination, according to senior team captain Adrien Clarke.

"All of our guys are bigger, stronger and faster, we've worked really hard in the weight room which has given the team strength," senior Tom Fallon said.

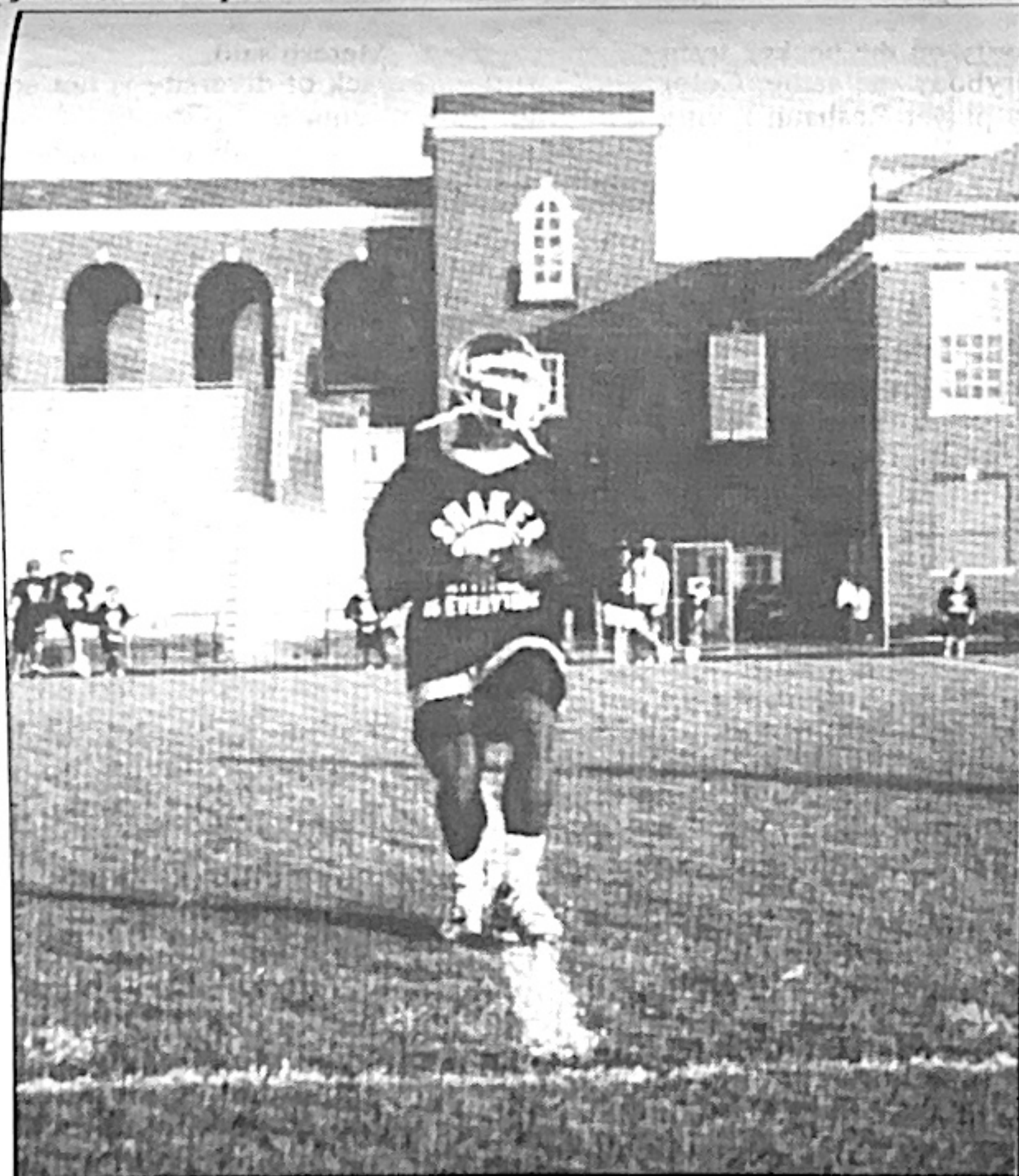
Junior Devan Miller also named dedication and commitment as key ingredients in the team's success.

"Everybody has put in more, we are more committed and we worked really hard off-season. With all the dedication and leadership of the seniors we've been able to dominate," Miller said.

The success of this year's squad has pleased Sedmak, and he cites his coaching staff as a key ingredient in the undefeated start.

"We have an outstanding coaching staff, and by staff I don't just mean me, but everybody that's involved," Sedmak said.

Any successful team reaches success through goal-setting, and Shaker has



**PREPARED TO WIN.** The rumbling Raiders have stormed the Lake Erie League's Lake Division. Shakerite photo by Sarah Floris

set many goals for themselves.

While some teachers may be delighted to see a winning trend in Raider football, newer Shaker students might take the team's success for granted. Consider this: In the last six seasons under Sedmak, the Raiders are 53-10 (.730). In the 10 years before Sedmak's tenure, Shaker compiled a 53-51 record (.510).

Clarke hopes the Raider's success continues throughout a long playoff run.

"We plan on working hard, taking it game by game and making sure the team remains as a family," Clarke said.

-Quotes compiled by Debra Kamin



## 12 hour meditation

NIKKIE MAJORCZYK

Sports Co-Editor



It was one of those things that would eventually happen, and when it did, you still didn't quite realize what had happened. Even afterward, I can't believe what I did. It still seems like a dream of some sort. The dream, which is now a reality, is the first time I meditated for 12 hours.

I've studied TaeKwonDo for four years under Master James Cahn. I've always known that to earn a black belt you have to be a complete martial artist, mastering forms, fighting techniques and the ability to teach others. I'd have to fast and meditate, too. Fasting never bothered me; I've gone three days before, but 12 hours of meditating was different.

I didn't consider what it would take. We meditate for a few minutes each class, but that doesn't compare to 12 hours. Bottom line, I wanted my black belt, so I had to do it.

That morning, a few hours before I embarked upon the journey to the next level of martial arts, I had yet to come to a full realization of the day ahead.

I started meditating in the main room at 8 a.m. with one other person. That was when it finally hit me that I was going to be here for the next 12 hours.

At 10 a.m. I heard my family come in. I sat waiting and waiting for James to come get us. He never came. Finally, my mom came in and told us that we should break. I stood up and felt really good. I had made it through my first two hours! Only 10 more!

The next four hours passed OK. I wasn't in pain from sitting and I still felt well. After I had completed the sixth hour, I said to myself, "This is no big deal. I'm doing fine." Then it hit me. Sure I had made it through six hours, but I still had six more to go.

After the break, the now awake James instructed us to go into the meditation room. It was my first time there. The room is small and white with hardwood floors and two small, dim lights. The little foyer has two sliding doors with decorated with Asian carvings. Against the wall is a painting of a dragon in intricate detail and vibrant colors. The room was quite a bit cooler than the training room. It was now that I became glad that I had brought a sweatshirt. As I put it on, and walked through the doors, I took a deep breath... that was the beginning of the hardest part.

This time when I sat down it wasn't so easy to fall into the trance. My mind kept wandering to the fact that I was only halfway done. It was 2 in the afternoon, and I thought about how back home, my friends were doing anything but sitting, meditating in a dark room. I began to get annoyed at myself. I was making it harder than it was. To relax, I began to recite the Korean terms I had learned throughout my training. I said them so many times that I finally fell into the trance I longed for. Not as soon as before, but eventually, James came again to break my thoughts of nothing and allow me to stand and stretch.

By now, my legs were beginning to become stiff. I walked a little slower and I was starting to feel a bit out of it. As my break came to a close, I began to feel as if I would never be done. I felt as if I had been meditating forever. I had finished eight hours of meditation. That was a lot of sitting still in a dark room.

As I sat down, I thought to myself, only four more to go. At my next break I would have only two hours to go, and that was promising. As I started meditating through hours nine and 10, things became more difficult then ever. No matter what, I was not slipping into my trance. I repeated the Korean terms hundreds of times and nothing was happening. I was frustrated again. I resorted to less philosophical ways of occupying myself. I began counting but had barely gotten to 200 when I got bored. Again I searched for something to help me drift away. I began memorizing the alphabet backwards, and then singing "99 Bottles of Soda." I got to 70 before I gave up. From then on, I just sat. And sat, and sat. Those were the two longest hours.

James came and told us that it was time for our last break. I stood up feeling dizzy and nauseated. Meditation is the third day of fasting and I'm hypoglycemic, so I was out of nutrients. It was Sunday night and I hadn't eaten since the Thursday. I felt bad and I wanted to cry, but didn't have the energy to.

As I stumbled back into the meditation room I was freaking out. An hour and 45 minutes later, Chris stood up to go, meaning I had 15 minutes to go! They were the longest 15 minutes ever.

Finally, Grand Master Choi came and told me that I had finished. I left the room feeling drained of everything, and at the same time full of happiness.

When I say I meditated for 12 hours, I'm amazed. It was the easiest and hardest thing I've done. It didn't take much to sit there, but it was a psychologically powerful experience. I learned that no matter how challenging something is, all I have to do is put my mind to it. Meditation was challenging and difficult, yet definitely worth it.

## Diversity not evident in Shaker athletics

NIKKIE MAJORCZYK

Sports Co-Editor

From the outside, Shaker Heights High School appears to be a well-integrated school. Take a closer look and you might be surprised by what you see.

The athletic program does not, by far, reflect the diverse persona Shaker portrays to the world.

The greater portion of sports teams are anything but diverse. For example, look at the men's basketball team — it is 95 percent African American. On the other hand, the women's field hockey team is 4 percent African American. Other sports that are semi-homogeneous include lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, cross country, wrestling, ice hockey, football and golf.

In fact, the only sport in Shaker that is remotely racially balanced is the women's volleyball team. It is 60 percent African American and 40 percent Caucasian.

The members of the team are aware of and appreciate the diversity of their squad.

"I think it's great. I get to play volleyball and at the same time I meet a lot of people that I otherwise would not have become close with," senior volleyball player Nora Maresh said.

The reason for segregated sports teams is often found in the history of the sport.

"By looking at the history of a sport, you can determine the racial breakdown of the athletes," Athletic Director Susan Brown said.

One example is lacrosse, which originated as an American Indian sport. However, since its adoption by elite northeastern schools, public and private, lacrosse has become a sport chosen more often by white athletes. Field hockey also began in the northeast United States and in most cases, field hockey squads are white.

Like many hockey teams, Shaker's team is virtually all white, with the exception of one African-American.

"I feel fine to be the minority on the hockey team because everybody treats everybody the same. Color doesn't matter," junior hockey player Rashaun Ewing said.

In many cases, looking at the ethnicity of a sports' founders, you can suggest what race its athletes may be.

Volleyball, the exception to Shaker's athletic homogeneity, also can be traced back in history. The sport

was founded by a man named William G. Morgan, an instructor at the Young Men's Christian Association. Though the YMCA had a greater white enrollment when it first opened, over the years it became known as a place where people of all races could go.

The racial division between sports has yet to cause any problems among Shaker athletes.

"I've been a coach for 18 years, and I have never had a situation where the minority on a team was not accepted," Brown said.

Yet when Shaker athletes travel to other schools, or even host schools, the situation can be quite different.

"When I was younger and played against teams like Parma and Garfield, some kids would say things like 'Why don't you play basketball?' I would just laugh

because those players were usually the worst kids on the team," Ewing said.

For the single Caucasian male on the basketball team, racism has never been a large issue.

"I have been given nothing but support and encouragement by every teammate I've ever had. Sure, opponents sometimes make comments about my being white, but they usually give me a lot of respect for being one of the few white basketball players at Shaker," junior Matt Baringer said.

Though she has never been subjected to verbal racism, Maresh has witnessed racism

through actions.

"I've never felt racism from any of my teammates, though most of the teams we play are either all black or all white. Once, though no verbal racism occurred, it was a little awkward when we walked into a school and the team mascot was a Confederate soldier," Maresh said.

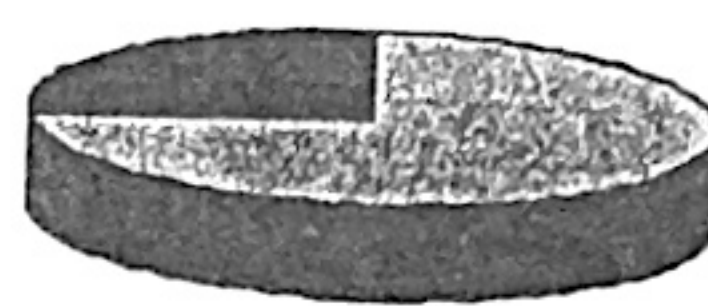
Many players on diverse teams feel that the variety of players is a wonderful asset.

"I am glad I've had the opportunity to be on such a diverse team," Maresh said.

However, lack of diversity is not something new to high school students.

"I think the lack of diversity begins at a young age in Shaker. Parents push their kids toward certain sports, which have been labeled 'white' or 'black.' The kids excel in these sports and never experience others," Baringer said.

Racial Breakdown in Shaker Athletic Teams



-Shakerite artwork by Nikkie Majorczyk

### RAIDER ROUND-UP

#### Women's crew offers scholarships

Every day members of Shaker's women's crew team practice on the Cuyahoga river in the flats.

Crew is a year round sport, starting with long distance races in the fall, training in the winter and sprints in the spring.

Crew is a prevalent sport in many colleges and universities around the country. Considering that crew is so popular in college, many scholarships have been offered to members applying to college. Colleges have money for female rowers especially because few female rowers apply for scholarships.

"The girls need to contact the colleges, because there is a lot of money that is available for such an up and coming sport," Junior Leah Lassauer said.

The NCAA standards rule that college coaches cannot make contact with students until the students' senior year. To be eligible for a scholarship an erg (rowing machine), time that is below 8 minutes 15 seconds is necessary.

- Jessica Smith

#### Higgins receives full scholarship to Tennessee

In spite of a serious knee injury that threatens to abbreviate his senior basketball season, Jon Higgins has accepted a full scholarship to the University of Tennessee.

Higgins was also offered scholarships to Ohio State University, Michigan State University, University of Michigan and Clemson University.

Higgins choose Tennessee because of his visit to the campus.

"I felt very comfortable with the team and the school. I feel like I'll play the best basketball there," Higgins said.

Although not surprised, Higgins was excited when news of the scholarship reached him.

"The recruiters had been coming several times, so I knew I'd probably get a scholarship, but I was very excited when I found out," said Higgins.

Higgins' talents are not limited to the court.

"Jon is truly an outstanding person. He's one of the most outgoing, friendly people you'd ever want to meet," Wonson said.

- Meghan Dubyak

### Red Raider Wrap-Up

#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

RECORD: 12-10

Lost first round of sectionals

#### FOOTBALL

RECORD: 8-0

NEXT GAME: Lakewood

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

RECORD: 7-7-2

Finished the season well

#### MEN'S SOCCER

RECORD: 13-2-2

Lost district semi-final

#### WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Placed well in all  
invitational

#### MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Placed well in all  
invitational

#### GOLF

12-14

Improved greatly this season

#### WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

RECORD: 5-6-3

Lost second sectional game

#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

RECORD: 12-10

Advanced to sectionals



# Baseball enjoys a *Marvelous* year

McGwire and Sosa were only two of many heroes who revived America's pastime with superheroic performances during the drama of the chase

BY DANNY GEORGE

Sports Co-Editor

A Rocket, an Ironman, two Titans and a superhuman cast. What sounds like the promotion for an *X-Man* comic strip was actually the contributing force behind baseball's remarkable revival in 1998.

Roger Clemens, Cal Ripken, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa, all magicians of the baseball diamond, collectively helped manifest the charming mystique that had long since disappeared from America's game.

By perpetuating gallant, heroic-like performances that would make even Clark Kent grin, the four players drove up attendance in baseball like a chest-high fastball to Ken Griffey Jr.

The change was incredible. Stadiums flowed with enthusiasm, attendance records were broken and emotion gushed like locker-room champagne.

Ripken's Ironman streak, which started before most high schoolers were born, ended at an incredible 2,632 games, and brought a close to one of history's most storied records.

As astonishing a feat as Ripken's streak was, it proved to be only a mere sideshow to the Sosa and McGwire longball circus that spanned the whole '98 season.

The two Titans, McGwire and Sosa, whose names grew more popular than Clinton and Lewinsky through the summer, combined to hit an unfathomable 136 homeruns, and made every night of the baseball season an epic adventure.

While Sosa and McGwire were launching missiles into National League bleachers, an American League Rocket was busy firing his own.

Roger Clemens, whose cannon-like arm earned him his career-old nickname of Rocket, returned to greatness in '98, all

but securing his fifth Cy Young award.

In going 21-7, Clemens helped his Toronto Bluejays battle the Boston Red Sox and Anaheim Angels in one of baseball's most exciting pennant races.

Countless brilliant performances were scattered throughout the year, each worthy of praise.

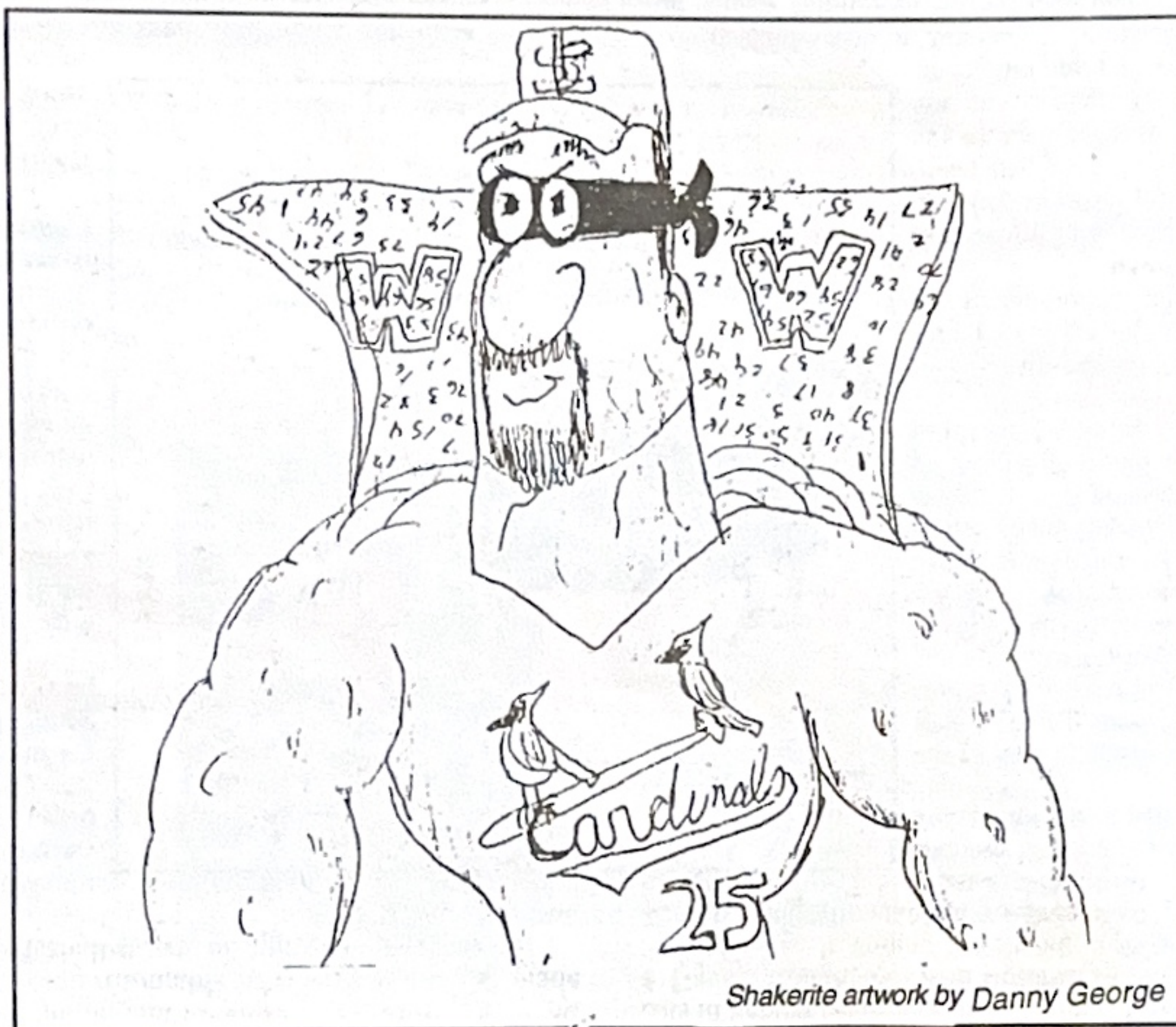
Among them, the San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds, a

perennial All-Star and certain Hall-of-Famer, reached the inconceivable career milestone of 400 homeruns and 400 stolen bases.

In addition, a raw rookie, the Chicago Cubs Kerry Wood, struck out 20 Houston Astros in a dominating May performance.

Wood's achievement earned him a spot in the record books, tying the all-time record of 20 strike outs in a game.

It was an illustrious year for baseball in 1998, but don't forget to tune in next year. There are more heroes



Shakerite artwork by Danny George

to be named later.

## Top five best moments in baseball this year

5. The Indians capturing their fourth straight division title and advancing to their third straight ALCS in the last four years, along with Manny Ramirez ripping homeruns in five straight at-bats in September.
4. David "Doughboy" Well's perfect game.
3. Cal Ripken Jr. ending The Streak.
2. Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa ripping number 62 into the bleachers at Busch Stadium and Wrigley Field, respectively.
1. Mark McGwire launching his laser-like 70th homerun into the left field stands, missing first base, yet all-but guaranteeing himself a spot in Cooperstown

## Cross country: Call them crazy, not lazy



### CHUGGING ALONG.

Shaker runner Steven Courtright stretches across the finish line after cruising through Garfield's 3.1 mile course.

Photo courtesy of Steven Courtright

Their T-shirts explain the mystery. "Why do we run?" the front asks. "We just run," answers the back. With these words of wisdom, and with a little mental toughness, the men's cross country team has experienced a formidable season. "We've been

working hard and having a good time," said David Thompson.

"We haven't done that well in meets or as a team, but we're all working hard, especially in practice."

The team trains after school, daily, running an average of six miles a day to train for their 3.1 mile races.

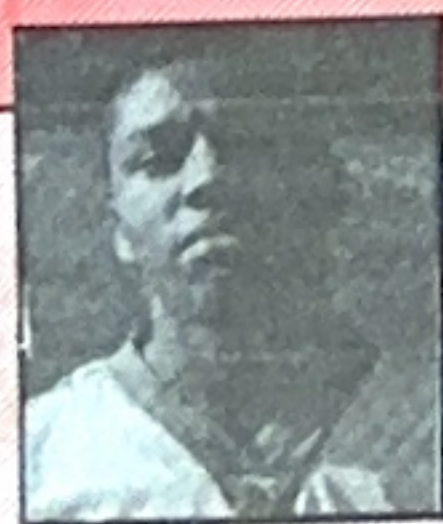
They have placed as high as twelfth in competition this year, and knocked off area powerhouse Benedictine in an August showdown at Horseshoe Lake.

Varsity runners include, Nate Shepard, Steven Courtright, Thompson, Zeke Hill and Alan Murphy.

Said senior team captain, Murphy, "Our team is getting better every meet. As we continue to work hard, we'll start seeing the results."

— Danny George

# RAIDERS OF THE MONTH



## Josiah Quarles

Sport: Soccer

Year: '99

**Achievement:** Quarles tallied five goals and six assists in helping the 10th-ranked men's soccer team to a 13-2-1 record after the week of Oct. 26. Later, trading his soccer cleats for track shoes, Quarles ran with the cross country team, setting a course record at the Garfield Invitational with a time of 16:26.

**Teammate's Comment:** "Josiah's just awesome. He makes things happen."  
— John Jackson

**Favorite Sports Memory:** "When I was 12 years old, my soccer team, the Eastside Kickers, won the city championship."

**Future Plans:** Attend Hampton University and compete in club soccer.



Shakerite photo by Adam Moore

## Kira Muehrcke



Sport: Field hockey

Year: '00

**Achievement:** Second year varsity member Muehrcke tallied 12 goals and three assists in leading the Raiders to a 5-6-3 record.

**Coach's Comment:** "I chose Kira as one of our team's captains and she's done a great job of providing leadership on and off the field."  
— Linda Betley

**Favorite Sports Memory:** "I used to do gymnastics when I was really little. I remember winning some meets, and my parents really supported me."

**Future Plans:** Muehrcke said her future is undecided, but she is leaving open the possibility of playing field hockey in college.



Shakerite photo by Dave Kresnye

— Compiled by Danny George